

October 2023

www.winonachamber.com | (507) 452-2272 | 902 E. Second St., Suite 120, Winona, MN



A Celebration of Manufacturing and Technology

Christie Ransom, President & CEO
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce

Manufacturers are the bedrock of many Minnesota communities, including Winona. They create an immense economic opportunity through high-wage, high-skill jobs, and they offer stability for the present and into the future, thanks to the sector's strength, versatility, and innovation.

Minnesota has over 8,300 manufacturers making a wide range of products and this sector is growing in Minnesota. It represents the single largest private sector component of Minnesota's gross domestic product. 319,000 Minnesotans work in manufacturing, accounting for 13% of private sector jobs in the state.

With the immense entrepreneurial mentality in Minnesota, it comes as no surprise that 42% of Minnesota's fortune 500 companies are in manufacturing, with 17 of them being headquartered here in our state.

Winona itself is home to approximately 80 manufacturing companies, that employ 6,000+ people. It is important to note that Winona and the surrounding area boasts some of the most unique and robust manufacturing in our state. We proudly represent manufacturing ranging from some of the most intricate and beautiful stained glass, to industrial and composite manufacturing, to incredible benches, lighting, rail safety equipment, medical technology, and SO much more.

We celebrate with our Manufacturers all throughout October, so please join us as we highlight area manufacturers and all they do.



Main Street Corner October 2023

Anna Sibenaller, Director of
Main Street Programs

Whew! Though the temperatures recede from the heat of summer, the Main Street Program sure doesn't cool down!

First order of business, **THANK YOU** to everyone who made **Big Muddy Brew n' Que** happen. The sponsors, the volunteers, the vendors, our tasting partners, everyone. The two-day fundraiser happens because of 37 business partners, over 40 volunteers, and five staff members. If you came out to enjoy the festivities with us, thank you for your support of the Main Street Program.

We also had a great time at **Salsa in the Street!** It's a blast to see the community come out to sashay and swing to live music on a drizzly fall evening. Yet another event that happens because of dedicated sponsors and volunteers.

We also would like to wish Winona a happy Halloween season! Make sure you stroll downtown to see all the silly and spooky décor in businesses windows starting on October 9. And we hope to see you and the whole family at **Streets & Treats** on Saturday, October 28 from 1-4 p.m.! If you're wondering how to get your organization involved, you can contact me at 507.452.2272 or asibenaller@winonachamber.com.

Finally, October is **National Women's Small Business Month**. In Minnesota, 32% of businesses are owned by women, according to a report by the Minnesota Legislative Office on the Economic Status of Women. Winona is so very fortunate to have many women small business owners, and not just in downtown. Women-owned businesses have a significant and beneficial impact on our local economy. To see a list of women-owned small businesses in downtown, visit www.winonamainstreet.com/tddt. Stop by this month to thank and congratulate these business owners on their efforts to make downtown a place that people want to be.

ABOUT THE CHAMBER

- OUR MISSION -

To Serve Businesses How and When They Need Us

- OUR VISION -

Be the Foremost Resource and Advocate for Businesses in the Winona Area

Officers:

Katrice Sisson – Chair
Stan Breitlow – Chair Elect
Andrew Puetz – Past Chair
Amber Hamernik – Treasurer
Andrea Northam - At Large

Retiring 2023:

Andrea Northam
Dave Pederson
Kelly Kohlmann
Andy Puetz
Mike Dieter

Retiring 2024:

Dr. Marsha Danielson
Janneke Sobek
Katrice Sisson
Jared Literski
Kendra Maggart

Retiring 2025:

Stan Breitlow
Amber Hamernik
Jason Gamoke
Kevin Ritz
Mandy Hansel

Staff:

Christie Ransom – President & CEO
Kay Mathews – Vice President of Finance and Operations
Emma Ebbinger – Director of Workforce and Business Development
Kateri Petry – Director of Marketing and Communications
Anna Sibenaller – Director of Main Street Programs

CHAMBER CHAMPIONS

- VISIONARY -



- PREMIER -



- EXECUTIVE -



Winona Health

THANK YOU SPONSORS

PRESENTING SPONSOR
101.1 THE RIVER
WINONA'S GREATEST HITS

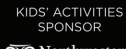


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MAGICIAN SPONSOR



BEST IN AREA TASTING SPONSOR



EVENT SPONSORS

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MBM Logistics
Midtown Foods

Miller Scrap & Disposal
Schott Distributing
WA Group
WinCraft
Winona Heating & Vent
Winona Post
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Xcel Energy, Inc.

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Cornerstone Bar
Gabby's
Market Street
Port 507
The Brickyard


Sponsored by **Altra** Federal Credit Union
STREETS and TREATS
OCTOBER 28, 2023
1-4PM
TRICK-OR-TREATING • MAGIC SHOW
COSTUME CONTEST • MUSIC & MORE
DOWNTOWN WINONA


WINONA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ANNUAL BANQUET & AWARDS
MAKERS OF MAGIC
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024


2023 AWARD CATEGORIES

- BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD**
SPONSORED BY **HAWKINS ASH** CPAs
- ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS AWARD**
SPONSORED BY **WATLOW** Powered by Possibility
- LOCALLY OWNED BUSINESS AWARD**
SPONSORED BY **CHRYSLER WINONA** Sugar Creek LIAF

TO LEARN MORE AND TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION, VISIT
WINONACHAMBER.COM/2023-AWARDS


WINNERS WILL ANNOUNCED AT THE MERCHANTS BANK NETWORK NITE ON NOVEMBER 9. AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE CHAMBER'S ANNUAL BANQUET ON JANUARY 26.

Presenting Sponsor
CHRYSLER WINONA


WINONA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2023 CAR RAFFLE WINNERS

GRAND PRIZE WINNER
BRIAN MIERAU
2023 White Jeep Wrangler Willys Edition
or \$20,000 cash



OTHER PRIZES

Merrimack Canoe & Sanborn Paddles – Judy Piel
\$1,000 – Josh Renk
\$1,000 – Jill McDonah
\$500 – Dawn Stacy
\$500 – Roger Roraff
\$500 – Eric Newman
\$500 – Alicia Bratland
\$250 – Bonnie Woodford
\$250 – Julie O'Brien
\$250 – Powers Construction
\$250 – Kristi Cossette
\$250 – Catie Cossette
\$250 – Robby Vaughn
\$250 – Larry Hock
\$250 – Sydney Hulbert

Winner responsible for any applicable fees or taxes. Permit #: X-93936-23-007

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BIZ BITES



Cindy Adolph has been promoted to Chief Risk Officer/Senior Vice President at **Merchants Bank**, according to Greg Evans, President & CEO.

“Cindy’s promotion is in alignment with the strategic focus and enhancements we must continue to facilitate in our risk management culture,” shared Evans. “Banking continues to be a highly regulated industry. Having someone with Cindy’s depth of experience and knowledge to lead the continued evolution of our risk management and regulatory compliance programs for the Bank is critical to our future independence and success.”

In Adolph’s new role she will have more strategic independence and company-wide focus on risk management while continuing to oversee Merchants’ internal audit and regulatory compliance functions. She is responsible for the leadership, innovation, governance and management necessary to identify, evaluate, mitigate and monitor all of the company’s risk components.

“For an organization of Merchants’ size, having a role that provides strategic oversight of the risk management is essential. I’m grateful for the realignment of my prior role and more focus being placed on the different areas of risk within the Bank with all going on in today’s world,” said Adolph.

Adolph joined Merchants in 2007 as part of the acquisition of The First National Bank in Cannon Falls, where she had been since 2002. She was promoted to Risk, Compliance and Audit Manager for Merchants Bank in 2015. She has more than four decades of experience in the banking industry.

She lives in Red Wing with her husband and offices out of the Winona and Red Wing Merchants Bank locations.

Merchants Bank is a full service community bank with 23 bank locations in southeastern Minnesota and west-central Wisconsin and a leasing division, Merchants Bank Equipment Finance, in Edina. Headquartered in Winona, MN, Merchants has more than \$2.5 billion in assets and was founded in 1875. Member FDIC.



WNB Financial is pleased to announce that **Nick Hedrington** has joined the Bank as a Business Banking Officer at its office in Altoona, Wis.

Hedrington brings a variety of financial experience, including insurance, investments, and financial consulting. He spent the last five and a half years as a commercial and agricultural credit analyst supervisor with Citizens State Bank.

“We’re excited to welcome Nick to Team WNB,” said Tom Seaholm, WNB Financial Community President in the Chippewa Valley. “His experience with analyzing and assembling loan packages is a big asset in molding his lending style. I look forward to working alongside Nick while growing banking relationships throughout the Chippewa Valley.”

“I’m very excited for the opportunity to grow with WNB Financial,” Hedrington said. “After many years of experience in learning what makes a quality business loan, I’m excited to once again partner with customers and help them achieve their business goals.”

Hedrington received a bachelor’s degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. He and his wife, Molly, reside in Lake Hallie and enjoy visiting craft breweries, hiking, weightlifting, and spending time with family and friends.



Michelle Olson, CNP, has joined Hans Serleth, MD, Katie Compton, CNP, and the other caregivers in **Winona Health’s** Plastic, Cosmetic, and Reconstructive Surgery department.

Olson has been caring for patients in different roles throughout Winona Health since starting as a nursing assistant in 1999 and working as a registered nurse in the intensive care unit for the last 17 years. She said, “I have enjoyed working in each role, and the diversity of patients and fellow employees I have worked with has shaped me into the caregiver I am today.”

Olson added, “It’s satisfying working in a collaborative team that works well together. No matter the role, while caring for my patients, I enjoy getting to know each person as an individual and helping them with their health and wellness to improve their quality of life.”

In her new role in the Plastic, Cosmetic, and Reconstructive Surgery department, she will join a team of caregivers who help individuals with medically necessary procedures such as eyelid lifts to improve vision, breast reconstruction that can improve back pain, or post-mastectomy due to breast cancer, carpal tunnel and hand surgery allowing individuals to enjoy their hobbies and return to work, to helping individuals improve their appearance through cosmetic enhancements. “I am excited to develop medical plans to help individuals improve their physical health and self-confidence.”

Olson, born and raised in Winona and now living in Fountain City with her husband and ten-year-old son, said she likes working in her hometown caring for her community and the surrounding areas. “I appreciate that Winona Health has fostered my love of learning and education and that my colleagues have encouraged and supported me through the years. I’ve also been able to teach at WSU and share my experience with future generations of nurses,” said Olson.

Olson mentioned that Winona Health is a perfect fit for her. She said, “I have always enjoyed working in a small community hospital where I can implement all the healthcare skills and knowledge that I have acquired while caring for a diversity of patients of all ages. Additionally, Winona Health is an innovative and technologically advanced organization allowing me to care for individuals with the most up-to-date medical and clinical practices.”

In Olson’s free time, she enjoys camping, crafting, cooking, and hosting game nights for family and friends. Additionally, she enjoys visiting her oldest son, who lives in Utah.

To learn more about Plastic, Cosmetic, and Reconstructive Surgery at Winona Health, visit winonahealth.org/plastics. To schedule a consultation, call 507.474.3152.



Maclane (Mac) Bever, CNP, has joined Nicholas Modjeski, MD, and the caregivers at **Winona Health** Rushford Clinic, 109 W. Jessie Street in Rushford. She will provide primary care for people of all ages.

“I was doing my clinical rotations at Winona Health during my training, and after my primary care rotation at Rushford Clinic, I knew that this is exactly where I wanted to be,” said Bever. “What I love about Family Medicine is building relationships with my patients so I can help them with whatever health concerns they may have.”

Before and during her training to become a Certified Nurse Practitioner, Bever cared for patients as a Registered Nurse in the hospital at Winona Health. She has been with Winona Health since 2018.

Bever is certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. She earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice, Family Nurse Practitioner, at Winona State University, where she had previously received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Bever recently had an article about depression screening and referral protocols for college students published in The Journal for Nurse Practitioners.

Originally from Heron Lake, a small town in southwestern Minnesota, Bever and her husband moved to Winona in 2014 to attend Winona State University. They now have a two-year-old daughter and two dogs. Bever said that they’ve just found their “forever home” and are excited to settle in and explore Rushford.

Rushford Clinic is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. For more information about Maclane Bever and services available at Rushford Clinic, visit winonahealth.org. OR, to learn more and schedule an appointment at Rushford Clinic, call 507-864-7726.



We are very proud to share with all of you today as we embark on a new chapter in **T.I.C.’s** journey. After two decades of dedicated service and unwavering commitment to our organization, President **Tim Johnson** is transitioning into the role of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Simultaneously, we are delighted to announce that **Jeff LeClaire**, who has been an integral part of our family for more than 15 years, will be stepping into the role of our new President.

Tim Johnson’s time as President has been nothing short of remarkable, driving T.I.C. to higher success than it’s ever been. As CEO, Tim will leverage his deep insurance knowledge and proven leadership skills to set the strategic direction of our company, strengthen our market presence, and nurture the culture that defines us. His passion for our Purpose and his unwavering dedication to our team will undoubtedly be instrumental in shaping our future success.

Jeff LeClaire’s appointment as President is a testament to his outstanding contributions to T.I.C. and we are exceptionally proud to announce his presidency. In his new role, Jeff will continue to lead with integrity, innovation, and a profound dedication to our employees, customers, and partners. His knowledge of our history, values, and vision positions him perfectly to drive us forward, building on our strong foundation while embracing new opportunities.



Congratulations to **Ed Borkowski** for being inducted into the **Minnesota Professional Towing Association Hall of Fame**. Ed is the President of Borkowski Towing & Salvage, a family owned and operated company that provides towing services and salvage parts in Winona and the surrounding area. Borkowski Towing & Salvage was established in 1960 and they have three generations working in the shop.

NEW MEMBER



Mississippi Thunder Speedway is a completely remodeled, state-of-the-art racing facility. After purchasing the facility at the close of the 2008 season, Bob Timm began the work necessary to reshape the once three-turn configuration into a high banked, sweeping, four corner track, sure to excite the best-of-the best. The owners of Mississippi Thunder Speedway continue those non-stop efforts of improvements to ensure that the track will be here for future generations to love and enjoy!

To learn more about MTS, visit www.mississippithunder.com.

RIBBON CUTTINGS



We celebrated the maiden voyage of the American Cruise Lines’ newest boat, American Serenade, as it docked in Winona. A proclamation from the City of Winona was made by George Borzyskowski, and Winona books and gifts were gifted from the Winona County Historical Society, Visit Winona, Minnesota Marine Art Museum, and the Polish Museum. Additionally, our Chamber Ambassadors did a ribbon cutting. Welcome to Winona!



We celebrated the new mural at Winona ORC Industries, Inc., which was designed with inspiration from their very talented clients. Congratulations to Winona ORC on this incredible project! We are excited to see it continue to grow.

To learn more about Winona ORC Industries, visit winonaorc.org



Congratulations Scooter’s Coffee on your grand opening in Winona! We were so happy to help you celebrate.

If you have not enjoyed one of their coffees or smoothies, head over to 1800 W Service Drive, Winona or visit scooterscoffee.com to learn more.

BE SEEN • BE HEARD • BELONG • JOIN THE CHAMBER!

It’s not just business as usual in Winona. The potential dividends from an investment in the Winona Area Chamber of Commerce are unlimited, because what develops at the Chamber is everyone’s business.