



**Come GROW with us in Leadership Winona 2021**

Christie Ransom, President & CEO  
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce

Leadership is a skill that we just do not seem to focus on as much as we once did. It is also a skill we all value but too often forget to foster and develop. For many people, the title of leader is something they are not comfortable giving to themselves. We are thrilled to be actively working to change that.

For many years, the Chamber has offered Leadership Winona, a program offering an intensive up-close look at the most challenging issues and opportunities facing our leadership growth and development. Leadership Winona engages participants in experiences that help them become better community leaders.

Every year we strive to create new and relevant content. Following the past year where the program was unable

to take place, my goal was to ensure that this year was big! I have focused on content to benefit participants in a massive way, but also to ensure that there will be active takeaways to be better in the workplace as well as in their personal lives. With 8 amazing presenters, along with civic leaders and brand-new tours, this year is going to be remarkable. Being able to attend in person and build engaging relationships with other community professionals is such an integral component of this series. We have moved the program to the Tandiski Center on the MN State College SE campus to ensure that we can expand our registration beyond what we have been able to accommodate in past years.

Our community needs more leaders to grow. Participating and supporting programs like this is one of the best ways to ensure that happens.

**For more information about the Leadership Winona program or to apply to be a part of the 2021 class visit [winonachamber.com/post/come-grow-with-us-in-leadership-winona](http://winonachamber.com/post/come-grow-with-us-in-leadership-winona).**

**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:**

- Michael Charron – Chair
- Andrew Puetz – Chair Elect
- Dave Jensen – Past Chair
- Jolene Vaselaar – Treasurer
- Kyle Rupprecht – At Large

**Retiring 2021:**

- Ben Adank
- Joanne Thompson
- Dave Jensen
- Rebecca Lamberty
- Jolene Vaselaar

**Retiring 2022:**

- Michael Charron
- Danny Rivers
- Kyle Rupprecht
- Randy Skarlupka
- Ellen Smith

**Retiring 2023:**

- Andrea Northam
- Dave Pederson
- Kelly Pronschinske
- Andy Puetz
- Mike Dieter

**Staff:**

- Christie Ransom – President & CEO
- Kay Mathews – Vice President of Finance and Operations
- Amanda Steine – Membership Development and Programs Manager
- Ben Strand – Main Street Program Manager



**LEADERSHIP WINONA 2021**

MEET THE DEMANDS AND NEW DYNAMICS OF TODAY'S DIVERSE & CHANGING BUSINESS CLIMATE  
HYBRID, IN-PERSON, VIA ZOOM- YOU CHOOSE!

**SESSION OBJECTIVES**

**LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT**

**NAVIGATING CHANGE & PERSONAL GROWTH**

- Navigate ethical challenges
- Prioritize possibilities
- Create confidence & credibility through communication
- Build inter-office relationships
- Understand current issues & impacts on business
- Develop skills to avoid hidden land mines in the workplace
- Strengthen communication about challenging topics
- Solve problems before they grow



- Advocate for your club or business
- Identify critical abilities for real leaders
- Explore how to implement new skills for long-term results
- Understand your personality & communication style
- Identify the impact personality & communication styles have on group dynamics
- Navigate generational experiences and the impact on the workplace, the customer, and communications

**2021 SCHEDULE**

- SESSION 1** Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 8:00-11:30AM  
Dynamics of Personalities Using Real Colors® with Kristine Valk
- SESSION 2** Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 12:30-4:00PM  
At Your Best with Tiffanie Mattick
- SESSION 3** Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> 8:00-11:30AM  
Lead by Adapting: Navigate to thrive in the Workplace with Carole Burton
- SESSION 4** Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> 12:30-4:00PM  
Overcoming the Barriers to a High Performing Team with Heather Christensen
- SESSION 5** Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> 8:00-11:30AM  
Age Matters: Connecting Across Generations with Emily Kurash Casey
- SESSION 6** Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> 12:30-4:00PM  
Mastering Public Speaking with Jerrid Sebesta
- SESSION 7** Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 8:00-11:30AM  
Leading through Intentional Living with Meg Krinke
- SESSION 8** Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 12:30-4:00PM  
Leading Thru Chaos with Erik Therwanger
- SESSION 9** Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 8:00AM-4:00PM  
Behind The Scenes Tours of the Area
- SESSION 10** Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> 8:00AM-4:00PM  
Panel of Civic Leaders

**GRADUATION** Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 8:00AM

• REGULAR PRICE \$800/PERSON • CHAMBER MEMBER DISCOUNT \$650/PERSON • HELD AT TANDESKI CENTER  
ALL MATERIALS & LUNCH IS INCLUDED



**CHAMBER CHAMPIONS**

**- VISIONARY -**



**- PREMIER -**



**- EXECUTIVE -**



**Young Professionals Program / REACH**

Mikaela Mohr, Chamber Intern  
B.E.N./REACH

Chamber Board of Directors. Our presentation topics will continue to educate growth, intentional living, community engagement, and more!

**Interested in becoming a YP or providing memberships for your employees? Let's connect! Please contact [info@winonachamber.com](mailto:info@winonachamber.com).**



During our July 2021 Educational Presentation for our Young Professionals (YP) program, we listened to a phenomenal presentation on mindset, growth, and change, inside and out of the workplace. Our speaker, Mick Lynch, clinical and sport psychologist at Winona State University, touched on a topic that resonated deeply. Understanding the "Why" in which you do things creates not only motivation, but a reminder of purpose. Having this opportunity to create a new perspective and thought process, I've begun to truly ask myself "Why" do we offer the YP program. "What kind of impact and benefit does it give to our community and members?"

Our 3rd and 4th quarter are packed with engaging and fun networking opportunities, some of which are family friendly, as well as community focused, especially our breakfast networking opportunity with the Winona

**RIBBON CUTTINGS**



The Winona Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting to honor the grand opening of **Oakwood Bank** in Rollingstone, MN. Oakwood Bank is a full-service, community bank, here to handle all of your Business, Agricultural and Personal Banking needs. In addition to their NEW office in Rollingstone, they have locations in Augusta, Eau Claire, Pigeon Falls and Whitehall, WI. They have been providing professional, friendly, hometown service for over 100 years. Recently they were recognized by the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA) as the 5th Ranked Agricultural Bank in the United States, showing their commitment for agriculture and the communities that support it. Oakwood Bank's recognition is based on the strength of its competitive banking services and operational efficiencies.

Stop into their new office to see how they can help you achieve your financial goals and provide for your financial future. They'd love to be your local hometown bank. For more information visit them at [www.oakwoodbank.net](http://www.oakwoodbank.net).

*Pictured with Chamber Ambassadors: David Adler, Board of Directors (BOD), Mike Miller, BOD, Mike Beighley, BOD, Amy DeBruyckere, HR/Marketing & Purchasing Specialist, Bill DeBruyckere, President/CEO, Denise Vaughn, Branch Manager/Personal Banker, James Vrchota, Market President, Chris Hilliard, Teller, and Jo Dailey, Teller.*



**Payroll Vault** celebrated their grand opening with an Ambassador's Ribbon Cutting in the beginning of July! Payroll Vault is a boutique-style local payroll service provider that designs payroll for your small business. Their payroll experts fully handle the compliance-driven payroll tasks to better enable you to focus on managing your workforce. Whether you have one employee or 100, you know that every year the demands by the government for complex reporting grows, while your time shrinks.

At Payroll Vault, they customize and personalize your service. They offer you the experience, cutting-edge technology, and suite of workforce management services to navigate the complexities of business. Most importantly, allowing the freedom for you to concentrate on what you do best, running your business.

For more information contact owner Kathy Rollinger at 507.335.2625 or [kathy.rollinger@payrollvault.com](mailto:kathy.rollinger@payrollvault.com). Or visit their website [www.payrollvault.com](http://www.payrollvault.com).

*Pictured with Chamber Ambassadors: Owner, Kathy Rollinger*

**NEW MEMBERS**



**Hiatt Metal Forming, LLC** offers a full range of precision manufacturing capabilities. From all types of wire forming to quality finishing and packaging, Hiatt has engineered technologies that paved a path for cost effective manufacturing solutions.

At Hiatt, they manufacture a wide range of wire shapes and assemblies for agricultural, appliance, sporting goods, store displays, electronics, consumer goods and OEM manufacturers. They are committed to continuous expansion of their manufacturing resources and range of services. Their production capacity and depth of knowledge gives their customers dependable quality, service and "on schedule" deliveries.

If you would like to speak to a service representative for a price quotation or more information regarding Hiatt Metal Forming capabilities, check them out online at [hiattmetalform.com](http://hiattmetalform.com) or give them a call at 507.454.4977.



**Catholic Charities of Southern Minnesota** is a comprehensive social service agency that provides a full range of programs that help families in crisis, vulnerable adults and seniors, and children of reaching their full potential. For over 65 years, Catholic Charities has served the poor and marginalized regardless of age, gender, ethnic background, or faith tradition.

Catholic Charities is the social service arm of the Catholic diocese for the twenty southernmost counties of Minnesota. The counties include Winona, Wabasha, Olmsted, Dodge, Steele, Waseca, Blue Earth, Watonwan, Cottonwood, Murray, Pipestone, Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Faribault, Martin, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore, and Houston. Their Catholic social service agency employs community and social service specialists to help people throughout Southern Minnesota.

Bishop John M. Quinn is the President of the corporation, Shanna F. Harris, as Executive Director, is the corporation's Secretary. The corporation's Board of Directors, appointed by Bishop Quinn, represent all geographic areas of the Diocese.

For more information on Catholic Charities of Southern MN contact them at 507.454.2270, [info@ccsommn.org](mailto:info@ccsommn.org), or visit them online at [www.ccsommn.org](http://www.ccsommn.org).

**BIZ BITES**



**Tirzah Warren** has been promoted to Assistant Vice President/Teller Administrator at **Merchants Bank**, according to Sue Hovell, Director of Retail Banking Performance. "Over her 20-year career, Tirzah has consistently demonstrated her commitment to serving our customers and her leadership ensures they are taken care of professionally and compassionately by our teller team," said Hovell. Warren has been with the Merchants Bank since 1999, when she started as a Teller at the Winona-Goodview location. In 2001, she was promoted to Lead Teller in Goodview and served in that position for 10 years. Then in 2011, she moved to the Winona-Lakeside location and was Lead Teller there for three years. She was promoted to Teller Administrator in 2016 and oversees all tellers at the Winona locations in Goodview, Lakeside, Downtown and Downtown Drive-Up. "I have had the joy of serving some of our customers for the entire time I've been with Merchants – 21 years – and it's been an honor to get to know them and watch our families grow together," said Warren. "Tellers are one of the Bank's greatest assets for serving our customers and I feel it's my privilege to help develop, and hopefully inspire, every teller on our team."



**WNB Financial** is pleased to announce the promotion of **Joanna Lauer** to Lending Universal Banker in Winona. In her new role, Lauer will continue to assist clients with deposit accounts in addition to consumer lending. She has been with WNB Financial for five years, most recently as a Customer Service Representative. "Joanna's commitment to our clients, paired with her extensive banking knowledge, makes her a perfect fit for her new position," said Ashley Hamby, WNB Financial Vice President and Retail Manager. "We're excited for her growth and continued journey with WNB." Lauer is regularly involved in WNB Financial's community giving efforts, participating in many onsite building projects for Habitat for Humanity of Winona County and volunteering at Bank-sponsored blood drives for the American Red Cross. She resides in Winona with her significant other, Angelo, and their two children: Vincent and Gabriella. The family enjoys spending time together and going for walks.

**MAIN STREET**



**Main Street August Newsletter**

Ben Strand, Program Manager  
Main Street Program

Wow! What a month we had in downtown in July! With so many great events and shopping promotions it was hard to keep them all straight – Dine Out Downtown, Swinging in the Street, Sweet Stroll, Crazy Days, Island City's Block Party, and the Show Your Ride Car Show.

It's great to see so many awesome things happening again that bring people to our beautiful, historic downtown!

August is a bit more of a down month for the Main Street Program, but we are still plugging away at finalizing plans for Big Muddy Brew 'N Que on September 4th and 5th! We are super excited to bring back our biggest event of the year after a hiatus in 2020.

We're going to have all the same fun activities we've had at the Que in years past – the Celebrity Rib Eating Contest is back again, along with the Bean Bag Tournament, Wine & Beer Tasting, Best in Area Grilling Competition, kid activities, and a bunch of great live music.

New this year is axe throwing and balloons by Kevin. We are super excited to have these popular activities at the Que. If you want to learn more about what else we have going on at this year's event visit [www.bigmuddybrewnque.com](http://www.bigmuddybrewnque.com).



**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 every one's business.**

If you are interested in leading the way with us, go to [www.winonachamber.com](http://www.winonachamber.com) and complete the online form.

To set up an appointment to explore the advantages of Chamber membership or to learn more about available resources at the Winona Chamber contact us at (507) 452-2272 or email [info@winonachamber.com](mailto:info@winonachamber.com)