

CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

Message from the President

Mary Claire Olson Potter Chamber President



Shop and Dine Locally Year-Round!

When you have shopping to do or are looking for a great meal, plan to visit the local shops and restaurants within the Hudson area. Keeping your dollars in our hometown has many advantages. Highlighted below are a few of the benefits you can reap by shopping locally:

- A Stronger Local Economy local businesses hire local workers. In addition to the staff, they hire local architects and contractors for building and remodeling, local accountants, and insurance brokers to help them run the business, and local marketing firms to further promote their products and services. Together, all these factors create a multiplier effect, meaning each dollar spent locally brings more money into the local economy.
- A Closer Community shopping at local businesses gives neighbors a chance to connect with each other. Shops and restaurants provide an experience and place for people to gather.
- A Cleaner Environment having stores and restaurants in your neighborhood means you can leave your car parked and do your errands on foot. Fewer cars on the road means less traffic, less noise, and less pollution.
- A Great Place to Live local businesses make our town a better, more
 interesting place to live. Local eateries, bars, bookstores, food markets,
 pharmacies, salons, and gift shops combined give our community its unique
 character.

To find a list of local stores and restaurants, visit our <u>directory</u> and show your support for other Chamber members.

Member Anniversaries



The Friends of Willow River and Kinnickinnic State Parks

is celebrating 35 years since its establishment in 1990. They are a nonprofit, volunteer-led, and donor-funded organization that supports educational programs and

activities in both parks. Enjoy free admission to the park and help support their mission, along with local and state dignitaries that have been invited. Join the Friends at their exciting celebration! Sunday, June 8 | Noon - 3:00 pm Willow River State Park at the Nature Center | 1034 County Road A, Hudson, WI 54016



San Pedro Café is celebrating 25 years with a weeklong throwback bash! From April 28 through May 4, enjoy a "Week of Dining Like It's 2000." Featuring daily throwback food and drink specials at their original 2000

prices, live music, vendor samplings, and big giveaways. Join them on Saturday, May 3 for a tropical patio party!



Thank you to the sponsor of the May Newsletter, **AccentCare Fairview**. We appreciate your support of this important communication piece.

MAY 2025

On the Inside





Hope Chiropractic: 25 years ago, Dr. Carolyn graduated school with a big dream and vision. She asked banks to give her a business loan, and after 11 banks said no, one bank finally said yes, and she began her vision and her journey. Fresh out of school, 3 months pregnant and full of tenacity and grit, her chiropractic business was born. Through many ups and downs and trials as a business owner, young mother, single mother, employer, and chiropractor, Hudson has been so good to her through these 25 years. Thank you all for giving her an opportunity to offer hope, improve health, and create wellness! Here's to many more years.



Hudson Friday Night Art Crawl The historic downtown with glorious views of the St. Croix River is welcoming and features savvy art galleries, fantastic shopping and fine dining with artful specials, talks with artists, and spectacular hospitality throughout the town on Friday. May 2. Come for art and dining, and have a great time. Participating businesses include ABOUT HOUSE, Bennett's Chop & Railhouse - Hudson, Cream of the Crop Artists Gallery, Dunn Brothers Coffee, Hudson Art Gallery LLC, Post -American Eatery, and Urban Olive & Vine. Hours vary from galleries to businesses to restaurants.

Join the Hudson VFW Post 2115 on Saturday, May 3 at 9:00 a.m. for their Day of Service. They will be cleaning headstones at Willow River Cemetery located at 464 9th Street. Everyone is invited. While they will be focusing on veteran headstones, they will be happy to help with cleaning a family member's headstone. Supplies, snacks, and water will be provided.

Art & Anthems - A Celebration of Creativity: On your way to or from the Community Expo on May 4, all ages are invited to join First Presbyterian Church (1901 Vine St.) for a free afternoon of art and music, kicking off their 170th anniversary celebrations by highlighting their core values of creativity and collaboration. From 1:00 -3:00 p.m., enjoy the opening reception for an exhibition of art by Prairie Elementary School students, music by local orchestra students, hands-on art demonstrations, and refreshments. At 3:00 p.m., enjoy a concert featuring the church's vocal choir, soloists, and other ensembles.

Rebecca Kolls: Improving Soil Quality: Gardener, author, and TV personality Rebecca Kolls will share information about Biochar at the May 6 Hudson Home & Garden Club meeting. Biochar, a coallike substance, may be the key to fertile soil, greener lawns, and larger, healthier crops, while addressing global-warming challenges. Kolls is associated with Revive Soils LLC, which produces Biochar in Baldwin, Wisconsin. The meeting is open to the public and begins at 1:00 p.m. in the River Room at the Phipps Center for the Arts. Join the group at 12:30 p.m. for refreshments. A non-member \$5 donation is appreciated to support programs. An RSVP can be sent to kswisherhhgc@gmail.com.

Join Christian Community Homes & Services,

Inc. on May 6 from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. for an on-site Job Fair! Openings for RSAs, CNAs, Nurses, Dietary, Therapy, and Volunteers. The Job Fair will take place in the Marie Blakeman Community Center at 1320 Wisconsin St. For more information, visit their website here or reach out to Elizabeth at Elizabeth.Leonard@CCHHudson.org.

Free Shredding and Donation Event: Please join Thrivent - Lasting Legacy Financial Consultants on Tuesday, May 6 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. for a shredding and donation event. They are located at 805 Dominion Dr., Suite 120. Bring a donation for We Do Feet or the St. Croix Valley Food Bank and receive free document

shredding. For more information, click here.

Join Black Rooster Bistro on May 8th for Booze & Books at 6:00 pm with Chapter2 Books featuring local author Manfred Gabriel and his book The Correct Response. Join them again on May 15th at 7:00 pm for a five-course tasting dinner featuring Portuguese wine. Tickets for both events are available by phone 715-808-0560 or online at blackroosterbistro.com

St. Croix County is having an appliances and scrap metal collection event on May 20 from noon to 6:00 p.m. This will benefit the Sheriff's K-9 unit. For more information, click here. Trail work is beginning at Eckert Blufflands, and they are looking for volunteers. See the park website if you, your organization, or family and friends would like to help create a new park.

The Hudson Women's Club will be hosting their Summer Solstice Soiree on June 17, 2025. This is their largest fundraising event and sample beneficiaries include the Hudson Area Public Library, Hudson High School Senior's Scholarships, Operation HELP, Salvation Army Grace Place Shelter, and St. Croix Valley Food Bank. Please join them for a fun evening of socializing, silent auction, fashion show, and a Champagne Chicken Dinner at the Troy Burne Golf Club, 295 Lindsay Rd. Questions and reservations may be made by contacting Chris Pederson at christine.pederson0@gmail.com. Registration deadline is June 9, 2025.

RiverFest Sponsorships are Available! Hudson businesses are invited to become a sponsor of St. Croix RiverFest, a community "Party with a Purpose" coming July 22-26. Join in celebrating the St. Croix River while recognizing the need to preserve its health and beauty. Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$1,000 and all sponsors receive inclusion in marketing materials and other benefits. NorLake is returning in 2025 as the primary Event Sponsor. Some of this year's RiverFest activities include a river clean-up, the Toonies Enviro-fun Puppet Show, St. Croix Valley Community Band Concert, Native American Celebration and more. The sponsorship deadline is May 30, 2025. For details and a sponsor form, visit stcroixriverfest.org/sponsors.

The Hudson Area Senior Center is amid an awakening. Having already had a very busy 2024, providing numerous social activities (along with their continued nutrition program), they are looking to the future. They are feeling positive about the chances and are dreaming bigger. They are most interested in learning what activities inspire older adults. Your interest and input in the survey <u>linked here</u> is appreciated. The responses will help them create tailored opportunities for the community.

Premium Office Space for rent or lease in Hudson! Features 4 private offices, a spacious reception area, a large open space ideal for cubicles or collaboration, ample nature light, and more! The space is 2,090 SF located on the second level of the building at 1610 Maxwell Dr. For more details or to schedule a tour, please contact Sandy Dreier at sandydreier@outlook.com or 715-307-3477.

Spring Storm Season is Here - Is Your Roof Ready? Frontline Roofing & Restoration is your local expert for roofing, siding, gutters, windows, and energy audits. Based in Stillwater and proudly serving Hudson, Western Wisconsin, and Minnesota, they offer free, no-obligation inspections to help you stay ahead of leaks and damage this spring. Their in-house crews provide reliable, highquality service you can count on. Call today to schedule your inspection and protect your property before small issues turn into costly repairs. WI: 715-210-9477 | MN: 612-468-8869

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Home Health Clinical Services

Accentcare* Fairview Home Health collaborates with physicians to provide patients the best possible home health care with the best possible outcomes. We design each patient's care plan to complement physician orders, and provide further support with evidence-based disease management and our staff's clinical expertise.

We carefully follow your treatment orders to create an individualized care plan that responds to your patient's condition and needs. In addition, we provide ongoing communication including clinical progress score cards to keep you apprised of patient status.



- Skilled nursing
- Specialty nursing
- · Physical therapy
- · Occupational therapy
- · Speech-language pathology services
- · Wound care



Patient support

- · Education for medication, nutrition, and self-care management
- · Home health aides for bathing and grooming
- · Medical social services
- Coordination of medical equipment



Proprietary RightPath® Programs

- · Cardiac care
- COPD
- Diabetes
- · Joint rehabilitation
- · Late-life depression
- · Palliative care

Contact your representative today.

651.232.2800



Members are encouraged to submit articles and press releases for inclusion in the newsletter. Members can submit a "Business Brief" of 100 words, at no charge, for inclusion in the newsletter by the 15th of the month for the next month's edition via email to info@hudsonwi.org

If you have guestions, call the Chamber office at (715) 386-8411.

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Throughout March, the Hudson Area Chamber hosted its annual **Lucky Clover Contest** to generate more support for local businesses. Based on the number of passport cards that were returned to the Chamber Office, over \$7,000 was spent locally and kept within the community. Thank you to everyone who shopped local to make this contest such a success, and thank you to all of our participating businesses.

Congratulations to our prize winners:

Cindy, Janeen, Lissa, Michael, and Nina!

Thank you to the following businesses who participated and/or donated items for the prize drawings: 21 Nails | 4 North Beauty Collective | The 715 | Abigail Page Antique Mall | ABOUT HOUSE | Angel's Pet World | Art Doyle's Spokes & Pedals | BackRoom Vintage | Barker's Bar & Grill | Bee Healthy Chiropractic | The Bees Knees | Beloved Makers and Company | Bennett's Chop & Railhouse -Hudson | Black Rooster Bistro | Carbone's Downtown Hudson | Casanova Liquors | CBD Hudson | Chapter2 Books | Dick's Bar and Grill | Droplets of Wellness, LLC | Ember and Bean Roasting Co. | et cetera | First State Bank and Trust | Grand Fête | Hop & Barrel Brewing Company, LLC | Hudco To-Go LLC | Hudson Flower Shop | Hudson Optical | Knoke's Chocolates & Nuts | kudos | La Rue Marché | Lucky Guys Distillery | Lucky's Wine & More | Mainstream Boutique | Pedro's Pizza Lounge | Post -American Eatery | ProteinHouse | The Purple Tree | RJ's Meats & Groceries | Rose & Lavender | San Pedro Café | SEASONS Gallery | Simply Seasoned | St. Croix Baking Company | The Subhouse | Urban Olive & Vine

Thank you to our event sponsors:



FIRST STATE = BANKANDTRUST





On April 24, Hudson residents became tourists in their own backyard and explored local activities, offers, and specials while supporting Hudson businesses through our spring **Small Business Crawl** event. To wrap up the day, Ziggy's Live Music, Bar & Restaurant held an after-party with live music where grand prize winners were announced. Fun was had by all who were involved!

Thank you to the following businesses for participating in this event, including special offers within the passports, and donating items for the swag bags: The 715 | ABOUT HOUSE | Awakened Soul - Gifts and Guidance for the Heart | BackRoom Vintage | The Bees Knees | Belle Âme Vineyard | Beloved Makers and Company | Black Rooster Bistro | Bricks Neapolitan Pizza | Chapter2 Books | Cream of the Crop Artists Gallery | Droplets of Wellness |

et cetera | Grand Fête | Hudson Art Gallery LLC | Hudson Flower Shop | The Jewelers Bench | Knoke's Chocolates & Nuts | kudos | La Rue Marché | Mainstream Boutique | Minuteman Press - Hudson | Post - American Eatery | The Purple Tree | Rose & Lavender | SEASONS Gallery | Simply Seasoned | Ted Blank Luxury Travel & Adventure | Waxing the City

Additionally, a special thank you to The 715, Angel's Pet World, The Bees Knees, Bennett's Chop and Railhouse - Hudson, Black Rooster Bistro, et cetera, Hudson Flower Shop, Minuteman Press - Hudson, Post - American Eatery, Rose & Lavender, and SEASONS Gallery for providing **grand prize**

Thank you to Ziggy's Live Music, Bar & Restaurant for serving as the **venue sponsor** for our after-party.

Ribbon Cuttings



AccentCare Fairview - based out of River Falls. They are a national leader in home health services, personal care services and hospice care, with innovative partnerships and care models that advance the industry forward. Welcome to the Chamber!



Computer Repair & Services – located at 2103 Coulee Rd. They offer a full spectrum of IT solutions designed to keep systems running seamlessly, securely, and at peak performance. Welcome to the Chamber!



<u>Gerber Collision</u> – located at 1701 Coulee Rd. They offer quality auto-body repair services backed by a lifetime guarantee as long as you own your vehicle. They repair all makes and models and provide free written estimates. Welcome to the Chamber!



<u>Learning Tree Academy</u> – located at 201 Carmichael Rd., Ste. 100. They offer care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in a safe and joyful environment where children develop as independent and confident learners. Welcome to the Chamber!



<u>Waxing the City</u> - located at 1008 Pearson Dr. They offer waxing services, brow and lash tinting, and specialty skin treatments. Welcome to the Chamber!

Ambassador Retention Visits



Bennett's Chop & Railhouse - Hudson - located at 517 2nd St. For their retention visit and monthly meeting, the Ambassadors visited Bennett's Chop & Railhouse in downtown Hudson. They serve American-style dishes made with the freshest ingredients. Thank you for your continued support of the Chamber!



Heywood, Cari & Anderson, S.C. - located at 816 Dominion Dr., Ste. 100. The Ambassador Committee visited Heywood, Cari & Anderson, S.C. for a retention visit. They are a full-service law firm with attorneys licensed to practice in Wisconsin & Minnesota. Kevin Urbik from their team serves on the Hudson Area Chamber Board of Directors. Thank you for your continued support of the Chamber!



<u>Seek Careers/Staffing, Inc.</u> – located at 805 Dominion Dr., Ste. 130. The Ambassador Committee visited Seek Careers/Staffing, Inc. for a retention visit this month. They are a staffing resource dedicated to Servicing Your Success by exceeding your expectations. Thank you for your continued support of the Chamber!

National National Travel highlights trave

celebration will occur from May 4 to 10 this year.

National Tourism Week

National Travel and Tourism Week (NTTW) highlights travel's essential role in driving economic growth, cultivating vibrant communities, and forging strong connections. This annual

Tourism encompasses nature-based activities, dining & drinking, shopping experiences, unique tours, and more. That's why our motto is: Whatever your scene, discover it in Hudson.

We want to thank all of you who open your doors to the public and our lodging properties. Without you, regional and nationallevel tourism to our community would not be possible.





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Congratulations to our April Brand Champion, Tim Puffer with Operation HELP/Fresh

Harvest Pantry
Even as April's
National Volunteer
Month comes to a
close, our local nonprofits continue to
work hard to support
is Tim Buffer the chair

our community. Leading that charge is Tim Puffer, the chair of the Chamber's Non-Profit Roundtable. These quarterly meetings provide a space for non-profits to share ideas and strategies as they work and grow their organizations and collaborate to enhance the Hudson Area. As a committee chair, Tim also participates in our annual Chamber MAX event and Board Planning Retreat.

Tim serves as the Executive Director of Operation HELP, an organization that serves residents of St. Croix County and offers short-term financial aid to those in a crisis situation. Recently merging with the Hudson Area Backpack Program and the Fresh Harvest Food Pantry, Operation HELP has supported the county for decades, with plans in place for many decades more. Thank you, Tim, for all that you do! We look forward to our continued partnership.

Wondering about the qualities of a Brand Champion? They include:

- Passionate and Supportive
- Knowledgeable and Communicative
- Invested in Success
- Interested in Building Loyalty

If you know of a great Chamber Brand Champion, let us know so we can recognize them and award them \$25 in Chamber Checks.

Chamber Member Referral Program



We are thrilled to announce the launch of the Hudson Area Chamber Member Referral Program! When you refer a business to the Chamber and they become a member, you'll be listed as their sponsor and receive a \$25 Chamber Check as a thank you. For any questions about this program, please email Anna@HudsonWl.org.

Congratulations to our April Referral Chamber Check Recipients:

- Nichole Frazer with Black Rooster Bistro
- Tiffany Dux with Blooms for Happiness
- Trapper Ward with Chiroway Chiropractic of Hudson

Welcome Our New Members



Welcome to our newest Chamber members. We're proud to have you join a network of businesses committed to progress, partnership, and community impact.

Benny's Bigfoot BBQ

Sponsor: Tiffany Dux, Blooms for Happiness

Be Industries - Brand Partner

<u>Hudson Tap</u>

Ink N Threadz

KPT Collaborative

Little Crappie Swim School

NorthStar Mindset Coaching

ReforMedicine S.C.

Revive & Restore

Sponsor: Trapper Ward, <u>ChiroWay Chiropractic of</u>

<u>Hudson</u>

TG Construction

The Marketing Clerics

St. Croix Sound Therapy

Sponsor: Nichole Frazer, Black Rooster Bistro



We've helped thousands of businesses with low, fixed rate financing with less down.

Give April a call today!



We Appreciate Our Renewing Members



Angela Olson Law

<u>Bricks Neapolitan Pizza</u>

<u>Citizens State Bank</u>

Coldwell Banker Realty - Tom Nielsen

Comfort Keepers

Comforts of Home Senior Living

<u>Dylan Seurer - Wade Hanson & Associates/REMAX</u>

Results

Elevate Orthodontics

et cetera

First State Bank and Trust

FIT (RE) GROUP

Fleet Farm

Gherty, Mark

Go Swim USA!

Golden Rule Initiative

Hudson Business Park LLC

Hudson Farmers Market on CARMICHAEL

Julie Heifner Real Estate

Keller Williams Premier Realty - Brad Hetland

Kilkarney Hills Golf Course

Louie's Bar & Gril

Northern Star Scouting

Northwood Technical College

San Pedro Cafe'

St. Croix Valley Foundation

The Zone

United Way St. Croix and Red Cedar Valleys

Valley Orthodontics

Viking Electronics Inc.

Waterproof.com LLC

Wild Rivers Conservancy of the St. Croix & Namekagon

Woodland Hill Presbyterian Homes and Services

500 Members Strong!

The Hudson Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to celebrate a meaningful milestone: 500 member businesses. This achievement is more than a number—it's a reflection of the strength, resilience, and generosity of our local business community. Our members are the backbone of Hudson. They support one another, show up for local fundraisers and causes, and contribute to what makes our community thrive.



Doggie Day Timeline

IO-II:30am Almost 5k!
IO-Ipm Food & Market!
IO-Ipm Adoptable Dogs!
II:30am Kids Race!
I2pm Puppy Yoga!

Family Friendly event that anyone can participate in... even your dog!

5K



PUPPY YOU SIGNU



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May Calendar of Events



April 26 - May 5 Nacho Batalla

- Simply Connect AM, 8:00 a.m., Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center, 279 South Cove
- Hudson Community Expo, 11:00 a.m. 3:30 p.m., Hudson High School, 1501 Vine St.
- Good Morning Hudson: Legislative Update, 8:00 a.m., CCH Marie Blakeman Community Center, 1320 Wisconsin St.
- Connections & Coffee, 9:00 a.m., Citizens State Bank, 375 Stageline Rd.
- Ribbon Cutting Oso Clean Janitorial Service, 1:00 p.m., 726 US Hwy 12 E Ste 102
- Good Morning Hudson: Local Municipal Government Leaders, 8:00 a.m., CCH Marie Blakeman Community Center, 1320 Wisconsin
- Ribbon Cutting Belle Âme Vineyard, 4:00 p.m., W10829 875th St., River Falls
- Spirit of the St. Croix Art Festival Planning Call. 9:00 a.m.. Zoom
- Seminar Series Workforce Opportunities, 8:00 a.m., Valley Companies, 721 1st St.
- Retail/Restaurant Committee, 9:00 a.m., Black Rooster Bistro, 512 2nd St.
- Board of Directors, 9:00 a.m., Chamber office
- Ribbon Cutting Buffalo Wild Wings, 11:30 a.m., 913 Pearson Dr.
- 20 Leadership Hudson Graduation Day, Kilkarney Hills Golf Course, 163 Radio Rd., River Falls
- Ribbon Cutting Hudson Hospital & Clinic Birth Center, 8:30 a.m., 405 Stageline Rd.
- 21 Let's Do Lunch!. Noon
- 22 Non-Profit Roundtable, 8:00 a.m., Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center, 279 South
- 22 Ambassador Committee Retention Visits & Meeting, 3:00 p.m.



Stay up to date on all the events. Scan (or click) the QR code to view the full Chamber and community calendar.

Congratulations to the Hudson Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau 2024 Award Winners!

Small Business of the Year

The Bees Knees

Large Business of the Year

Royal Credit Union

Chamber Member of the Year

Leanne Van Allen, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Youth Community Volunteer of the Year

Ivy Johnson

Community Volunteer of the Year

Larry Szyman, Faith Community Church

Manufacturer of the Year Award

Phillips Medisize, a Molex Company

Marie Blakeman Award Jamie

Johnson, Lommen Abdo, P.A.



Small Business Week

For more than 60 years, the U.S. Small Business Administration has celebrated National Small Business Week, which

acknowledges the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners. This year, National Small Business Week takes place May 4 - May 10.

We appreciate the hard work, ingenuity, and dedication of our small business owners year-round. The economic impact on the Hudson area is immense. Thank you, small business owners, this week, and every week for your contributions to

Get in Touch

Hudson Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau

219 Second Street Hudson, WI 54016

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 715-386-8411 Email: info@hudsonwi.org

Members can take advantage of this monthly opportunity to reach our membership by being a paid advertising sponsor. Call the Chamber office at (715) 386-8411 to request information on becoming a sponsor.