

BATTLE CREEK

insight

a publication of the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce

WELCOME TO
Battle Creek

January | February | March 2019

welcome new members

BC Sound & Stage	Pearse Realty Inc.
Miles for Memories	Draves Family
Hoenes Tailoring,	Restaurants, LLC
Alterations	McDonalds
Kitchen Proper	Urbandale
Northern Initiatives	1695 W. Michigan Ave.
New Level	McDonalds
Sports Ministries	Pennfield
Women's Network Inc.	1085 Capital Ave. NE
Women's Co-Op	McDonalds
KForce	Wattles Park
Family and Morale,	1160 E. Michigan Ave.
Welfare and	McDonalds Pilot
Recreation (FMWR)	15901 11 Mile Road
Defense Logistics	Spiritual Care
Agency	Consultants
Comforts of Home	Community Action
Counseling &	Agency of
Care Management	South Central MI
Alzheimer's Association	Robin's Nest
Columbia Auto Service	Resilience Chiropractic

our vision

The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce is the premier business association whose influence, solutions, and networks drive economic growth in the Battle Creek area enabling businesses, community and people to prosper in an ever-changing economy.

mission statement

The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce will provide the best in member services and aggressive business advocacy to create a climate for employer growth and a prosperous community for all.



President's Corner

By Kara Beer, IOM, MPA

One hundred years ago, membership organizations were a crucial aspect of a professional's career. They opened up opportunities for networking and professional development that simply weren't matched by other sources. However, in this age of social media whereby a world of peers is only a tweet

away, the benefits of joining a membership organization is rightly being questioned. So, are we still relevant? The answer is simply, **YES!**

Even in today's hyper-connected global society, I recognize the following benefits (including many more) of our Chamber membership organization for working professionals and community supporters:

- **Impact.** Our membership organization raises awareness of important issues facing our member businesses and individuals by hosting a plethora of professional development opportunities including workshops and webinars, and by publishing a quarterly and weekly newsletter offering impactful information that benefits our members and community. Member's association with the Chamber's brand sends the message that you're serious about your business and community, and that you're willing to allow your voice to be heard.
- **Benefits.** The Chamber offers member benefits and/or discounts member businesses may benefit from and save on their bottom line as well as Member 2 Member discounts that benefit their employee's bottom line.
- **Networking.** Social Media may have already injected steroids into the sport of professional networking, but the real power lies within membership organizations like your Chamber through the plethora of opportunities offered for local networking at its best.

Despite the benefits offered by the Chamber, competition for a share of the business investment is becoming increasingly intense. We offer something unique including a hyper-local infusion of energy and culture while continuing to evolve meeting the needs of our members. In turn, this provides members with increased value, credibility and trust through their annual investment.

In 2019, the Chamber celebrates 107 years, and more importantly, seven (7) member businesses who have been a member in-good-standing celebrate 100 years of membership with us. Join us on February 12 at our Eye Opener Breakfast to celebrate, honor and appreciate these seven members:

January 2019: SEMCO Energy Gas Company

March 2019: Consumers Energy

December 2019: Bachman Hebble Funeral Services, Inc.; Battle Creek Enquirer; Farley Estes Dowdle Funeral Home; Post Foods LLC, Battle Creek; Shouldice Industrial Manufacturers and Contractors, Inc.

*100 years
of commitment from our members:
making an impact locally.*



One Riverwalk Centre, Suite 3A,
34 West Jackson Street, Battle Creek, MI 49017
BattleCreek.org

269.962.4076
Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.





member anniversaries

100 Year Anniversary:

Consumers Energy
SEMCO Energy Gas Company

55 Year Anniversary:

The Buikema, Oursler, Morse Financial
Team of Janney Montgomery Scott LLC

35 Year Anniversary:

Heritage Chevrolet
Katz Well Drilling, Inc.

30 Year Anniversary:

Darrell Burke Construction Co.
Summit Pointe

25 Year Anniversary:

Edward Jones Investment
Midwest Communication Services, Inc.

20 Year Anniversary:

Cornerstone Office Systems, Inc.
Historic Adventist Village

10 Year Anniversary:

AcMoody Farms
Geiger E.D.M., Inc.
Republic Waste Services
Mark Stafford
VA Medical Center

5 Year Anniversary:

American 1 Credit Union
Baymont Inn & Suites
John Bizon
Courtyard by Marriott
Finley's Grill and Smokehouse
Old National Bank
Richard Schlatter
Westbrook Place Communities

Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce Staff

Kara E. Beer – President
Billy Beers – Director of Marketing
& Engagement
Jennifer Blank – Accounting Manager
Ryan Fleury – Administrative
& Communications Specialist
Kayla McCarthy – Member Services
Specialist

Member 2 Member Discounts | Many Ways to SAVE

The Chamber's Member 2 Member Discount Program encourages Chamber member businesses, organizations, and their employees to prefer other Chamber members when making buying decisions. Contact Kayla McCarthy at 269.962.4076 or kmccarthy@battlecreek.org to promote YOUR discount throughout our network and encourage members to choose YOU when making their buying decisions. **Visit battlecreek.org to SAVE with over 25 Member 2 Member discounts!**

Barista Blues Café

Discount: Buy one lunch and get 50% off the second lunch of equal or less value.
Valid on Fridays only.

For more information, please contact Maryann at 269.968.8430.

Graphix 2 Go

Discount: Graphix 2 Go believes in Battle Creek. All Chamber members receive a 20% discount on their first order with Graphix 2 Go, and a 10% discount for all following orders.

For more information call 269.969.7321.



Humanergy

Discount: Receive a 10% discount on up to \$1,000 during any 12 month period from Humanergy. Humanergy will help you get the most out of your people by facilitating tough meetings, coaching leaders, communication and teamwork training, and providing keynotes for your events.

For more information call 269.789.0446.



Heritage Cleaners

Discount: \$10 off first time customers. New Customer discount for Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce members only. Applies only to dry cleaning, first visit only.

For more information, contact one of their Battle Creek locations:

• 512 Riverside Dr. | 269.968.6811
• 146 North Ave. | 269.964.4674



KForce

Discount: End of year projects? Audit Prep? Help with open enrollment? Could a consultant add value during year end? Kforce is offering a complimentary "working interview" credit of up to 8 hours when a consultant works their first 40 hour week. *For more information, contact Client Relations Director Laura Garnett at 269.213.9499.*



**Consultant must start by January 31, 2019.*

Board of Directors

Denise Jones

Chair, Graphix 2 Go

Debi Southworth

Immediate Past Chair, OMNI Community Credit Union

Bud Dunn

Past Chair, Atlas Sales, Inc.

Dr. Emily Bandeen

Secretary, Bandeen Orthodontics

Joey Vernon

Treasurer, CTS Telecom, Inc.

Jim Lance

Legal Counsel, Kreis, Enderle, Hudgins & Borsos P.C.

John Banks

Chair-Elect, Motor Shop Electrical Construction Co.

Jim McKernan

Bronson Battle Creek

John Gayda

Kellogg Company

Michael Miller

Culver's Battle Creek

Jeremy Wilson

DENSO Manufacturing

Bryan Teff

National Guard – 110th AW/CC

Leah Ortiz

The Arc of Calhoun County



How YOUR Membership Benefits have made an Impact on YOUR Network

The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce thrives on creating an expansive network for members to grow their business and share their story. With a network of 500+ members, the opportunities and benefits offered through membership are unique to each and every member. In this issue, the following members are excited to share with you how their membership has impacted their personal and professional growth.

Discounts

As a Chamber member I find one of the most useful benefits is the Office Depot discount program. We use this benefit for many of our printed materials as it gives us access to competitive pricing without quantity requirements. This allows us to keep flyers and brochures current and almost paying for itself in time and money. The best part is . . . it's so simple. If you aren't using this, you should be!

– Brad Scoffin, Advanced Business Advisors, LLC



As a member of the Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce, Graphics 3 loves participating in the Member 2 Member discount program. Since posting our member discount we have seen an increase in our web and social media traffic, quote requests, and an increase in orders coming from other Battle Creek Chamber members. This program is a great enhancement to our marketing program. We highly value this opportunity and everything the Chamber has to offer.

– Mike Pulgini, Graphics 3, Inc.



Learning

Continuing to remain an active member of the BCACC has afforded me multiple opportunities to grow and learn professionally and personally. Events such as the Women in Business Luncheons, monthly Eye Openers and unique speaking engagements have led to my development in areas of leadership, business management and community economics. There have also been opportunities for me to share my knowledge of marketing and advertising with other members. It is definitely a win/win!

– Jenny Andrews, Account Executive, Adams Outdoor Advertising



Learning *continued*

The Battle Creek Chamber is a wonderful resource for learning and education on variety of topics to help businesses grow. From marketing to business development, the training opportunities available are yet another great member benefit to our Chamber!

– Nicole Bruinekool, Publisher, Lakeview Living



The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce's dedication to providing learning opportunities and resources to members mirrors the mission of Western Michigan University perfectly. We're happy to welcome the Chamber and local business owners and professionals into the Kendall Center at WMU-Battle Creek for Chamber events and programs. By being able to connect with the professional and business community in Battle Creek at the Women in Business luncheons and other workshops, I've been able to ensure WMU-Battle Creek is meeting the needs of the contemporary students in the community while enjoying great networking.

– Tammy Morgan, Director of Student Engagement, WMU



ribbon cuttings & grand openings

October through December

Contact us for a ribbon cutting!

Is your business growing?

Have you recently expanded your footprint within the Greater Battle Creek Area or enhanced your portfolio of products and services? Visit battlecreek.org for our Ribbon Cutting Celebration form, and contact us to learn more about how the Chamber can help highlight a significant part of your businesses history. Also, the Chamber is now going Facebook Live during all Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening Celebrations to increase our member's digital footprint one view at a time.



2,335
3-sec Video Views



October 9, 2018 – Shwe Mandalay Burmese Cuisine

Chamber Staff, Ambassadors and Members of the community celebrated the Grand Opening of Shwe Mandalay Burmese Cuisine with Ribbon. Battle Creek has welcomed approximately 3,300 Burmese people during the past two decades and the population keeps growing. Shwe Mandalay is the solution to bring a unique experience for the people of Battle Creek to enjoy exquisite cuisine and learn the Burmese culture. Burmese people, at the same time, will have an opportunity to enjoy their native cuisine, helping them feel like home in their new home. For more information, visit shwemandalaybc.com, call 269.753.1702 or stop by their newly renovated location today. **451 W. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49037**



October 17, 2018 – Battle Creek Unlimited

Chamber Staff, Ambassadors and Members of the community celebrated the Grand Opening of Battle Creek Unlimited's new offices with Ribbon. BCU renovated a 5,400 square foot cross-dock space in the Frederick R. Brydges Customs Cargo Center, which was adjacent to BCU's old office. The new space features 14 staff offices; a large boardroom with a high-tech audio/visual system; a project room; new restrooms with shower facilities; and a large kitchen/break room. BCU also installed two electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, each with two charging ports, which are part of the ChargePoint network. For more information, visit bcunlimited.org or call 269.962.7526. **4950 West Dickman Road, Battle Creek, MI 49037**



October 12, 2018 – Kitchen Proper

Chamber Staff, Ambassadors and Members of the community celebrated the Grand Opening of Kitchen Proper with Ribbon. Owners, husband and wife Anthony Davis and Sarah Barany, are truly excited to bring tasty, fresh food and excellent service to Battle Creek and all of Southwest Michigan. The restaurant offers local, fresh, tasty fare and smiling friendly faces. For more information, visit kitchenproperfoods.com or call 269.753.1550. **34 W. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49017**



November 7, 2018 – Northern Initiatives

Chamber Staff, Ambassadors and Members of the community celebrated the Grand Opening of Northern Initiatives new Battle Creek office with Ribbon. Northern Initiatives is a Community Development Financial Institution that provides loans and business services to small business owners and entrepreneurs who create jobs and enable the communities in Michigan and neighboring Wisconsin to thrive. Northern Initiatives is working in collaboration with the WK Kellogg Foundation to manage the \$10 million Small Business Loan Fund that will help to create a more vibrant economic climate in Battle Creek. For more information, visit northerninitiatives.org or call 269.224.6940. **Two West Michigan Avenue, Mezzanine Floor, Suite A, Battle Creek, MI 49017**



visit battlecreek.org or the Chamber's  page for latest and up-to-date event details.

Tuesday, January 15

State of the Community Address
7:30 – 9 a.m. | Kool Family Community Center

Wednesday, January 16

Silent Observer Committee
8 – 9 a.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Friday, January 18

Women in Business Luncheon
Noon – 1 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Monday, January 21

Leadership Battle Creek
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Wednesday, January 23

Military Affairs Committee
3 – 4 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Friday, January 25

Rap with Your Reps
7:30 – 9 a.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Tuesday, January 29

Economic Club Luncheon
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Wednesday, February 6

Networking @ Lakeview Square Mall
11 a.m. – Noon | Meet @ Applebee's & Buffalo Wild Wings Entrance

Friday, February 8

Women in Business Luncheon
Noon – 1 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Tuesday, February 12

Eye Opener Breakfast & Business Expo
7:30 – 9 a.m. | Kool Family Community Center

Friday, February 15

Ambassador Committee
1 – 2 p.m. | Location: TBD

Monday, February 18

Leadership Battle Creek
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Wednesday, February 20

Silent Observer Committee
8 – 9 a.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce

Wednesday, February 27

Military Affairs Committee
3 – 4 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Thursday, March 7

5:00 Dash – Networking within 60 Minutes
5 – 6 p.m. | Location: TBD

Friday, March 8

Women in Business Luncheon featuring Leadercast Women, International Women's Day
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Kellogg Community College, Binda Theatre

Tuesday, March 12

Eye Opener Breakfast & Business Expo
7:30 – 9 a.m. | Kool Family Community Center

Monday, March 18

Leadership Battle Creek
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Wednesday, March 20

Silent Observer Committee
8 – 9 a.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce

Thursday, March 21

Chamber ChitChat
3 – 4 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce

Tuesday, March 26

Economic Club Luncheon
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

Wednesday, March 27

Military Affairs Committee
3 – 4 p.m. | Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft

spectacular ambassador



Scott Bradley, Sales Professional, Heritage Chevrolet

As a sales consultant for Heritage Chevrolet I recognize the value and the benefit of providing excellent and inviting

service for our customers. This is why I have a passion for the ambassador program. I love having the capacity to volunteer and serve the Battle Creek community. Giving back to the businesses and community that have given me so much is an honor.

At Heritage Chevrolet, we have a passion and commitment in providing world class service to all of our customers. I look forward to continuing that mission as an ambassador reaching out to more of the local community. The relationships I have been able to build from this program will no doubt follow me through the rest of my career, and beyond. I believe in Battle Creek.

Chamber Champions

This year's Chamber Champions are creating access to accelerate ideas, opportunities and solutions, helping people thrive, business to excel, and our community prosper in all that we do. We're grateful for their support which is helping us provide an expected 80+ engagement opportunities throughout the upcoming year.



Will you be joining us? Call 269.962.4076 or email Ryan Fleury at rfleury@battlecreek.org.

Chamber Refund & Cancellation Policy

Please visit battlecreek.org for our complete policy details

Editorial Policy: Articles written by outside authors do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce. The position of the Chamber will be clearly stated where applicable. The Chamber reserves the right to reject advertising based on content and does not accept advertising that conflicts with the mission or position of the Chamber. The advertising of products or services in the Insight does not necessarily represent endorsement by the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce. The Insight is published quarterly by the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce. Editor: Kara Beer, President.

**Bronson Battle Creek
Motor Shop Electrical Construction Co.**

**Calhoun County Visitors Bureau
Omni Community Credit Union**

member's business spotlight

The **Alzheimer's Association** is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research and to provide care and support for all affected and their care partners. As the largest nonprofit funder of Alzheimer's research, the Association is committed to advancing vital research toward methods of treatment, prevention and, ultimately, a cure. **Contact us at 269.342.1482 or kjmyers@alz.org.**



In a world full of causes, **Big Brothers Big Sisters** makes a difference by creating professionally supported, one-to-one matches for kids who want to realize their full potential. The agency is rolling out new branding, including a new logo, to spread the word that mentoring is important and the need is urgent. **Please join us in defending Battle Creek kids' potential at Bowl for Kids' Sake on Friday, March 22! Register at bbbsmi.org/bowl.**



CareWell Services Southwest is passionate about serving older adults, persons with disabilities, and caregivers. Our goal is to promote health, independence, and choice for those we serve. We do this through programs including wellness classes, options counseling, case management, elder abuse prevention, and more! We also offer Dementia Friendly Business Training and Dementia Live, a hands-on training which allows others to understand better what loved ones with dementia may be experiencing. **For more information on any of our programs and services, call 269.966.2450.**



The **City of Battle Creek** relies on dedicated neighbors and members of our business community to serve on our boards and commissions, so that we have your representation in city government. We have openings now on the Human Relations Board, dedicated to building relationships and working to create equity across city programs and services. **Learn more about our boards and apply for any at battlecreekmi.gov/boardsandcommissions. Use our web form, or print the fillable PDF.**



Manpower of Battle Creek has changed locations! Our new office is located at 2518 Capital Ave SW Battle Creek, MI 49015. At Manpower, we offer staffing for temporary to permanent hire (and direct hires!) in industrial and clerical work, as well as a professional division. Manpower provides feedback on a consistent basis relating to an organization's current hiring methods; what's working and what isn't; how Manpower can improve turnover, as well as implementing a positive culture that encourages professional and personal growth in each Manpower associate. We look forward to seeing you at our new location!



OMNI Community Credit Union received a #3 ranking in the nation in 2018 Credit Union Journal's Best Credit Unions to Work For®. OMNI ranked third among credit unions in the \$200-\$500 million category. Two main factors were used to select the winners: an employee survey that accounted for 75% of the score along with an evaluation of workplace policies, practices and demographics that made up the remaining 25%. **To learn more about OMNI's award-winning team, visit omnicommunitycu.org.**



Selling Michigan since 1972 **Pearse Realty Inc** has created friendships with generations of clients. Our commitment to surpassed service remains our focus while knowledge, integrity and experience are the cornerstones of our company's success and longevity. Savannah Hatfield joined our team of agents in early 2018. Spending her entire life in the Battle Creek area makes her a great choice for your next agent. **Call Savannah today at 269.420.1291 or email SavannahNHatfield@gmail.com to get started.**



At **Podolsky and Wickham, PLLC**, it's about you. Our knowledgeable and compassionate attorneys are here to help you navigate the legal system and will advocate to protect your rights. Our practice is located here in Battle Creek and we're committed to representing you in the areas of family law, criminal defense, estate planning, elder law, child abuse and neglect and driver's license restoration. **Please call us at 269.965.3185 for a consultation or visit our website at pwlawmi.com.**





Spiritual Care Consultants is a nonprofit group that was established in 2007. It's our mission to develop an individual's short term and long term spiritual care plan. We offer free consulting sessions to those that find themselves in need. Through collaboration with spiritual organizations, health care providers, individuals, corporations, and schools, we assist in transforming a person's health and wellness. Our aim is to help balance your spirit, soul and body! **To learn more, please visit spiritualcareconsultants.com or scchealingbegins.com.**



Based on hiring needs, employees are welcome to attend one, two or three job fairs during **Western Michigan University's** 2019 Spring Recruiting Showcase in February, 2019:

Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Fair
Wednesday, February 6, 2019

https://app.joinhandshake.com/career_fairs/5700/employer_preview

Career Fair

Thursday, February 7, 2019

https://app.joinhandshake.com/career_fairs/5701/employer_preview



Government & Nonprofit Fair
Friday, February 8, 2019

https://app.joinhandshake.com/career_fairs/5751/employer_preview

The **Woman's Co-op** has established an industrial sewing program as a social enterprise to train women in industrial sewing while manufacturing scrub uniforms for the allied health field. This pilot program is a key element in the Co-op's mission of helping women work together to improve their lives through life management skills, education and employment opportunities. It's hoped the program participants, or students, will have the opportunity to develop marketable industrial sewing skills by creating a product that can eventually be marketed to the local community. The Co-op is proud of the caliber of our industrial sewing instructor, Ms. Hazel Joplin. The class is currently hosted by the Woman's Co-op and held at The Burma Center in Springfield, Michigan.



woman's co-op

For more information or to support the program, please contact Teresa Momenie-Young at 269.966.8988 or teresamomenie@womanscoop.org. Or, visit womanscoop.org.

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

A HEALTHY SMILE IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

MCDC offers a full range of dental services for the whole family, and we're in your neighborhood!

MCDC
MY COMMUNITY DENTAL CENTERS

3566 Capital SW, Suite 102
Battle Creek, MI 49015

For more information or to register as a patient, call 1-877-313-6232 or visit us online at mydental.org

Medicaid Plans | MICHild | Healthy Michigan Plan
Uninsured | Private Insurance ACCEPTED!

Community first EVERY MONTH OF THE YEAR!

Join Scene Magazine and Senior Times as we tell everyone about this great place we call home.

Senior Times (269) 979-1479
Scene (269) 979-1410
www.scenespub.com

Senior Times
A Newspaper For And About Area Senior Adults

Scene
education issue

affinity program spotlight

Featured Member Benefits

United Networks of America is proud to partner with the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce offering a free prescription assistance program to members, their employees, families and friends. The Battle Creek Chamber Rx Card, compliments of the Chamber, was launched to help uninsured and underinsured afford their prescription medications with no restrictions to membership, no income or age limitations, and no applications to fill out.

This program can also be used by people who:

- Have health insurance coverage with no prescription benefits
- Have prescription coverage for non-covered drugs



Visit battlecreek.org's homepage and click on the FREE PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE web button or simply cut out the Prescription Savings Coupon (on page 11 in this newsletter) to begin saving today! Since there is no name on the card, all prescriptions processed through the program are completely confidential.

Contact One of Our Member Pharmacies:

LuxCare Pharmacy

phone | 269.883.9900

address | 2503 Capital Ave. SW, Battle Creek, MI 49015



Walmart Pharmacy

phone | 269.979.4727

address | 6020 B Dr. N, Battle Creek, MI 49014



Sam's Club Pharmacy

phone | 269.979.5327

address | 12737 6 Mile Road, Battle Creek, MI 49014



Twin Valley Pharmacy

phone | 269.964.4467

address | 1250 E. Columbia Ave., Suite B1, Battle Creek, MI 49014



Parks Drugs, Inc.

phone | 517.629.9481

address | 318 South Superior St., Albion, MI 49224

National Chamber Program with Office Depot Open YOUR Chamber Account TODAY

We're constantly looking for ways for our members to SAVE and are excited to introduce a new discount program through the National Chamber Program to help grow your bottom line by cutting hundreds of dollars in expenses. This pricing program is specifically tailored by Office Depot to support Chambers of Commerce members and business, while generating a rebate back to YOUR Chamber!

You're a part of a \$100MM National Group Purchasing Organization. We've joined a group of over 1,500 Chamber of Commerce's to get the best pricing possible on the items you, our members, use the most from Office Depot | Office Max.



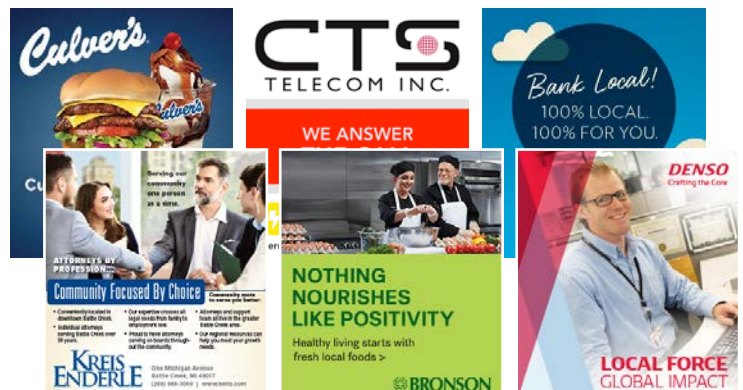
Learn more about the Office Depot Chamber Member Pricing & Features at battlecreek.org by visiting our member benefits page. Click on the Office Depot | Office Max banner to sign up and begin SAVING today!

Online Advertising Opportunities

Website Advertising | battlecreek.org

Utilize one of your membership benefits by taking advantage of cost effective and popular web banner advertising opportunities. Be the first impression on your client and our community's mind by announcing new products/services and visually showcasing your brand.

Our online traffic statistics from our 2017-2018 fiscal year indicate that we had **96,000 unique visitors**. We offer a 10% discount on all advertising opportunities with an annual agreement. Website Advertising includes a Web Banner (size: 268 x 300 pixels) for \$350 per quarter.



events and programming

Rap with Your Reps | Roads & Infrastructure

Friday, January 25, 2019 • 7:30 – 9 a.m.

Location: Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, The Loft,
34 W. Jackson St., Suite 3B

During the 2018 November election, registered voters allowed their voices to be heard throughout our county as communities reported an increase number of voters at polling locations.

This past election showcased a time for change as government seats from the local, state and national levels began to see a change in leadership. With this change, fixing our roads and infrastructure has again been a topic of discussion which is why we're inviting you to January's Rap with Your Reps forum.

Rap with Your Reps provides business owners and members of the community an opportunity to express their questions, comments and concerns about what's happening within our community, and how it directly and indirectly affects businesses. *Whether you're a business owner or community member, let us know that you're planning to attend by calling our office at 269.962.4076.*



Women in Business presents,

Leadercast Women | International Women's Day

Friday, March 8, 2019 • 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Cost: \$100

Location: Kellogg Community College, Binda Theatre,
450 North Avenue

The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to celebrate International Women's Day by being a Leadercast Women host site during its March Women in Business professional development series. Leadercast Women provides an empowering leadership experience where leaders from all walks of life gather to learn powerful leadership insights from an all-female speaker lineup. Their experts share lessons and anecdotes from their remarkable leadership experiences to help attendees become better leaders for their teams, organizations and communities.

Reasons why YOU should attend:

- To be empowered in your leadership
- To learn how to take courage
- To hear from world-renowned experts
- To add to your leadership toolbox
- To network with leaders just like you
- To earn CEU credits

Continue your leadership journey by securing your seat at Leadercast Women on March 8, 2019. Simply call 269.962.4076 or visit battlecreek.org to learn more.

State of the Community Address

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 • 7:30 – 9 a.m.

Location: Kool Family Community Center, Lew Boyd Room,
200 W. Michigan Avenue

You're invited to help change the narrative in our community by attending the Chamber's State of the Community Address on Tuesday, January 15, 2019.

Top 5 reasons your attendance is important include:

- Breakfast and PLENTY of Coffee
- 100+ Connections
- Economic Development Update & Insight on Community Momentum
- 4 City and/or County Representatives
- Opportunity to Change City & County Narrative



Calhoun
County Board of
Commissioner
Derek King



City Manager
Rebecca Fleury



Mayor
Mark Behnke



Calhoun County
Administrator/
Controller
Kelli Scott

Due to higher attendance, we're unable to host the Business Expo at the State of the Community Address. Vendor tables are reserved solely for sponsors of the Address. *Contact the Chamber at 269.962.4076 to learn how you and your business can become one of our exclusive sponsors.*

State of the Community Address Sponsors:



Eye Opener Breakfasts & Business Expos

Save the Dates | February 12 & March 12 • 7:30 – 9 a.m.

Location: Kool Family Community Center, Lew Boyd Room,
200 W. Michigan Avenue

The Benefits:

- 80+ Connections
- Opportunity to Promote You and Your Business
- Celebrate Member Anniversaries
- Learn of Member Successes & Growth through Ribbon Cutting Celebrations
- Welcome New Members into Your Network
- Being in the Know of Member and Community Updates
- Breakfast & PLENTY of Coffee

The Reasons why YOUR Attendance is Important:

- Business Members & Community want to Connect with You
- Stay Informed & Up-to-Date on Topics of Interests
- Utilize FREE Membership Benefits

To present on Topics of Interests at an Eye Opener Breakfast, or to utilize your benefit of membership of hosting a vendor table during the Business Expo call 269.962.4076 to speak with one of our staff members who's ready to assist.



Economic Development Update from Battle Creek Unlimited

The new year is looking bright with three high-profile projects set to come on-line in 2019. New Holland Brewing; Heritage Tower and Record Box, LLC are all slated to be under construction and in full-service within the same year.



In October, **New Holland** closed on the sale of 64 W. Michigan along with a portion of the parking lot directly behind the building. The parking lot portion of the sale is slated to be an outside beer garden with many fun features; including seating for 100. The City Commission will be considering an OPRA tax abatement for the property in early 2019. Construction activity should commence soon with an anticipated opening slated for summer of 2019.

Heritage Tower too has made significant progress with the final piece of the capitol stack finalized on November 27, when the Michigan Strategic Fund Board approved \$10 million in project financing. This was the final piece of funding needed to get this project off the ground. This project has been a total community effort with several local partners including the MEDC; City of Battle Creek; the W.K. Kellogg Foundation; The Battle Creek Community Foundation; Heritage tower BC, LLC; the Direct Investment Fund Committee; the Battle Creek Brownfield Redevelopment Authority; the DDA, BCU; and South Bend based 1st Source Bank. Occupancy of the apartment units is slated for spring/summer 2019.

Record Box, LLC will also be under construction and is slated to be open by fall 2019. This project is located at 15 Carlyle Street and is being developed by Restore (269). The three-story building will include office space, event space, and a brewery in the garden level of the facility.

\$200,000 Financial Assistance Offered for New Restaurateur in Downtown Battle Creek

Battle Creek Unlimited (BCU), an economic development organization for the City of Battle Creek, is searching for a reputable, experienced restaurateur who seeks to establish a new location in Battle Creek, Mich. BCU is soliciting proposals for a restaurant to locate in or near downtown Battle Creek that is complementary to those businesses already in the area. **For more information, go to:** <https://bcunlimited.org/about-us/news>

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