

CHAMBER Chatter

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SEPT 2019

5 Ways the Chamber Can Make You a Better Networker

Networking opportunities are everywhere. You no longer have to leave your worksite to be able to network, but studies now show that online networking doesn't hold the same power as in-person networking. Networking is critical to landing a job, learning about opportunities before they are broadcast, and getting more sales for your business.

It's necessary, and one of the easiest, most effective networking groups is the chamber. The chamber does more than just introduce you to others. They coordinate the events that offer networking tools and opportunities for you. Here are 5 ways the chamber can make you a better networker that you might not have thought of.

1. In Person Events

The chamber offers a host of in-person events from formal networking events to informal member mixers. There are even opportunities to sponsor events and showcase your business location.

2. Networking Assistance

The chamber is rich with experience and advice on how to improve your networking skills. Check to see about networking courses or training.

3. Lead Specialized Groups

These groups are often more targeted than the open networking events for the entire chamber membership. Getting to know a select group of business associates in your industry can help your business take off. Groups like Shop Tomah are an example of this within the Chamber community.

4. Leadership/Educational Opportunities

This can position you as a thought leader in your industry and helps with networking after the event. Presenting at a Chamber Lunch and Learn is a great opportunity!

5. In Sight, On the Mind

While social media can be a very effective tool for keeping in touch, it's easy to posts. At an in-person event, on the other hand, you come face-to-face with someone and they're immediately on your mind again.

A Final Word About How the Chamber Can Make You a Better Networker

Networking is challenging for most of us but having an organization that specializes in it can help you get the training and assistance you need to get more customers and grow your tribe. Chamber membership is a pretty small price to pay for that.



MEMBERSHIP & BOARD

NUMBER OF CURRENT MEMBERS: 341

August Renewals

AmericInn Lodge & Suites, 23 years
Arpin Cranberry Campground, 12 years
Bank of Mauston, 2 years
BMW Properties, LLC, 10 years
Break Room Sports Bar and Grill, 2 years
Brenengen Chrysler Ford, 10 years
Combined Insurance, 9 years
Derousseau Heating & Cooling, Inc., 12 years
Edward Jones - Griffin Moe, 33 years
Faith in Action of Monroe Co., 11 years
Freedom Village, LLC, 5 years
Funky Monkey, 13 years
Habelman Bros. Company, 6 years
Jane Donaldson, 1 year
Jellystone Warrens, 9 years
Koel's Lawn and Landscape, 4 years
Kwik Trip, 20 years
Lighthouse Assembly of God, 12 years
Marten's Floor Covering, 35 years

Meca Sportswear, 35 years
Ocean Spray Cranberries, 2 years
One Acchord Performance Co., 6 years
Pizza Hut, 28 years
John Rusch, 51 years
Sparrow Nest at the Abbey, 1 year
Stoney Creek Recreational Properties, LLC, 3 years
T&J Hospitality/Ground Round, 13 years
The Baker's Table, 1 year
The Carpenter's Touch, LLC, 3 years
Tomah Lioness, 11 years
Tomah Lions, 33 years
Tomah Sports Booster Club, 2 years
Tomah Youth Hockey Club, 32 years
Torkelson Family Funeral Home, 39 years
TRICOR Insurance, 40 years
US Cellular, 25 years
Warrens Area Business Assoc., 13 years

New Members

Tents and Events

Current Chamber Board

BOARD OFFICERS:

Chair- Jeff Cram
Past-Chair- Robin Pierce
Treasurer-Michelle Hagman
Matt Buswell
Christian Dawley
Mitch Koel

BOARD DIRECTORS:

Kristi Betthauser
Kyle Evans
Jeremy Haldeman
Amanda Konsitzke
Anna Meyer
Kim Voigt

EX OFFICIO:

City of Tomah- Roger Gorius
VA Medical Center- Matthew Gowan
Western Technical College:
Tomah- Nichole Purvis
Fort McCoy- Tonya Townsell
Tomah School Dist.- Cindy Zahrte

OPEN HOUSE

SEPTEMBER 13 & 14



You're invited to tour the new
Gundersen Tomah Clinic and **Tomah Health**

FRIDAY, SEPT. 13

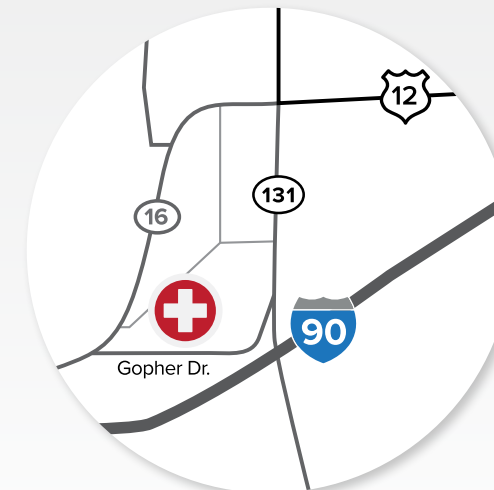
3 – 6 p.m.

Ribbon Cutting at 2:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 14

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Refreshments Provided



GUNDERSEN
TOMAH CLINIC

gundersenhealth.org

 **Tomah Health**
TOGETHER IN CARE
tomahhealth.org

GOPHER DRIVE OFF I-90 IN TOMAH



OPENING
OCTOBER 2ND

We're Moving

The First Patient Day is Scheduled October 2 at the New Tomah Health.

We're proud to be expanding our services in our new facility and **moving the community forward** with Tomah Health.

Our **wide-range of medical services** includes inpatient and outpatient surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, emergency care, hospice and palliative care, rehabilitation therapies, infusions and much more.

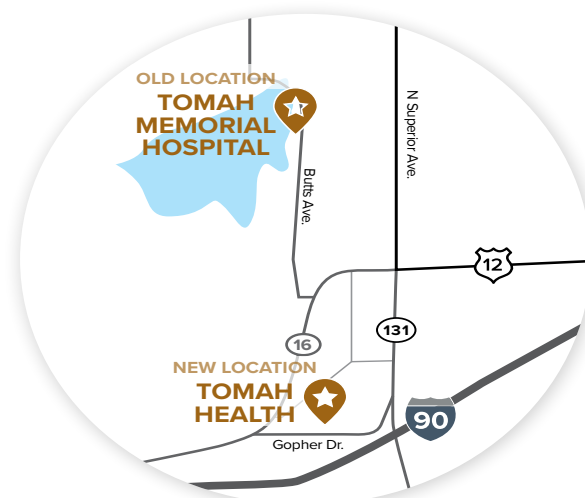
We are excited about the move and look forward to **caring for you and your family** at Tomah Health. **Starting October 2, your patient care will be transferred over** to our new Tomah Health facility.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call 608.372.2181 or visit TomahHealth.org for more information.

Tomah Memorial Hospital is moving.

Visit us at

Tomah Health
501 Gopher Drive
Tomah, WI 54660



Do you feel the air changing? It's wonderful, crisp and is a bit of relief from the hot summer temps. This is the best time of year for outdoor exercise! It's also very beautiful once the leaves start to turn. Here are a few ideas to keep you active as the season changes!

Raking leaves

If you have lots of trees in your yard, turn what might seem like a big chore into family fun time. In addition to being a great source of cardio exercise, raking leaves in your yard will check one more thing off your to-do list.

Visit a corn maze

Corn mazes are an easy way to log a several miles with your family. Set aside a few hours and visit a local maze. Your family will love working together to find your way out, and chasing your kids in and out of the maze will get your feet moving and will be a fun way to exercise together.

Walks and bike rides

Enjoy the beauty of fall in your neighborhood by taking regular walks or bike rides with your family. Take a leisurely walk after dinner and see the fun decorations going up around your block.

Fall 5K races

Fall is perfect weather for running. Involve your whole family by signing up for a themed 5K. Halloween races often have costume options or even zombie chases. November races give families an opportunity to work off extra calories with a turkey trot on or around Thanksgiving. Even families with young children can participate. Just load your toddler into a stroller and get ready to race.

Hiking in fall

Embrace the changing of the seasons by taking a hike. Bring your whole family and enjoy the fall foliage together. If you have younger children you can choose a shorter hike and take your time. Challenge your kids to search for different plants or animals along the way. It's a great time to get some exercise and enjoy a nature scavenger hunt.

Membership Tips from Megan



by Megan Divyak, Membership and Events Coordinator

Did you know that the benefits of your membership in the Tomah Chamber & Visitors Center provides you access to low-cost advertising, marketing, and sponsorship opportunities? Let us share your promotions with our audience for a greater impact!

For example, it is only \$50 to run a full page advertisement in our monthly newsletter, the Chamber Chatter. It is a simple and effective way to reach our community and only Chamber members are allowed the opportunity to advertise in the Chamber Chatter. The Chamber Chatter is distributed to more than 1,000 members via email and mail. If you are interested in placing an advertisement in the next newsletter, just email us a PDF file of your advertisement and we will take it from there! Please submit your advertisements to us one week prior to the end of the month you would like your ad to run.

As a Chamber Member, you are also eligible to advertise in the Tomah Activities Guide. The Guide is published once a year and provides a wealth of exposure! With more than 30,000 copies distributed a year, plus unlimited access to the digital copy on our website, the Guide provides you excellent exposure to visitors and locals alike. Guides get distributed to many local businesses, restaurants and gas stations along the I-90 corridor, and all across Wisconsin as requested by other visitor centers. Your membership automatically gets your business listed in the directory, but by purchasing an ad in the Activities Guide, you greatly increase your exposure! Ad prices start as low as \$200! Give us a call to learn more or reserve your space for the 2020 guide!

Of course, you can also post your businesses' events at no charge on the Community Events Calendar of our website, as well as the Tomah Chamber Members Only Facebook group. And don't forget about the online Member Information Center, which allows you to create a webpage for your business in our online directory where you also have ability to post Hot Deals, Member to Member Deals, Job Postings, and more - all at no cost!

We hope you take advantage of all that your membership offers! Let us know if you have any questions.

September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6 City Wide Rummage Sale	7 City Wide Rummage Sale
8	9	10	11	12	13 Tomah Health and Gundersen Clinic Open Houses 2:45 Ribbon Cutting, Open House 3-6pm, Gopher Drive	14 Kegs, Corks & Forks 7pm Tomah Indoor Hockey Rink Tomah Health and Gundersen Clinic, Open Houses, 9am-1pm
15	16	17 Chamber 101 12pm Tomah Chamber & Visitors Center	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Warrens Cranfest St. Andrews Pancake Breakfast 6am - 11am St. Andrews Church, Warrens	28 Warrens Cranfest St. Andrews Pancake Breakfast 6am - 11am St. Andrews Church, Warrens
29 Warrens Cranfest St. Andrews Pancake Breakfast 6am - 11am St. Andrews Church, Warrens	30	31				

Spotlights

ON BASE AT FORT MCCOY

by Theresa Fitzgerald

Fort McCoy Commemorative Area open Sept. 6 & 20 to walk-in visitors

The Fort McCoy Commemorative Area will be open for walk-in visitors from noon to 4 p.m. Sept. 6 and 20. Members of the public are welcome.

The Commemorative Area consists of the Equipment Park, five World War II-era buildings with historical displays, the History Center, and Veterans Memorial Plaza. The History Center and World War II-era buildings contain artifacts dating from Fort McCoy's inception in 1909 up to present day.

Members of the public must present valid photo IDs at the Visitor Control Center to get a visitor's pass. For information on visitors' passes, call the Visitor Control Center at 608-388-4988.

Groups of 15 or more may schedule tours from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call the Public Affairs Office at 608-388-2407.

Leadership change at Fort McCoy

Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Mantha became the new command sergeant major for the Fort McCoy Garrison on July 16. The previous command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Mathias, left the installation in April. Mantha was previously the NSA Counter-Intelligence noncommissioned officer for the 902nd Military Intelligence Group (Counter-Intelligence) in Fort Meade, Md.

Military Retiree Appreciation Day Sept. 6 at Fort McCoy

Fort McCoy will host its annual Retiree Appreciation Day from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 6, giving military retirees a chance to catch up with one another and learn more about their benefits.

Retirees and their family members/guests from all branches of military service are welcome to attend. The event features guest speakers and sessions covering updates to retiree benefits and Army programs from 8 a.m. to noon in building 905. A benefits fair is also held from noon to 3 p.m. at Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122.

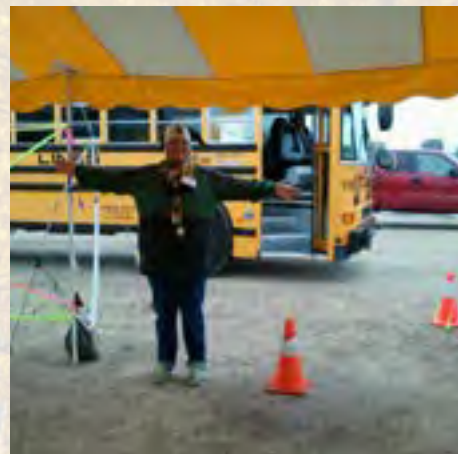
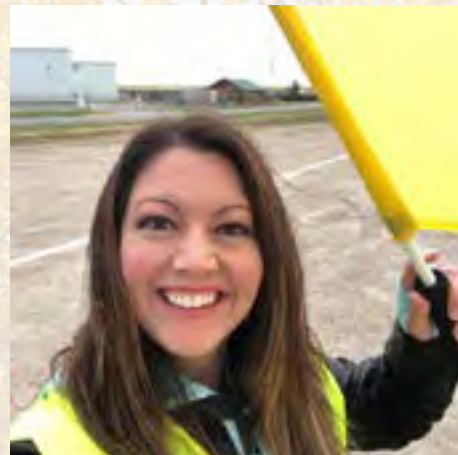
Advance registration is required for Retiree Appreciation Day. For more information, call 800-452-0923.





Cranfest Bus!

FRI – SUN | 7AM – 5PM | TOMAH REC PARK
\$5 ONE-WAY, \$8 ROUND TRIP, \$15 WEEKEND PASS



FALL IS FOR WORKFORCE

MANUFACTURING DAY
TOURS: OCTOBER 4TH

SAVE THE DATE AND
WATCH FOR DETAILS

TOUR LOCATIONS WILL
BE ANNOUNCED SOON!

Musical Relationships!

By: Tina Thompson, President & CEO

I've always had a close relationship with music. It makes me feel connected to people, memories and experiences. I feel free and happy when I listen to good music. I also enjoy singing, especially in church with my family's little choral group as well as in the car by myself with some Queen or Chris Stapleton cranked up.

But nothing compares to dancing on the streets of Tomah and belting out songs with family, friends and complete strangers that treat you like family.

To that end, I want to share with you some of the feedback I have received about Downtown Thursday Nights (DTN).

"Thanks for a good party tonight, glad I could finally get to one!"

"I live in Watertown, but have a hunting trailer in Necedah. A few months ago, when I saw Cherry Pie was playing in Tomah, I immediately planned a long weekend to attend this event. Tomah assembled a VERY legit family type weened event! I was very impressed. I've seen Cherry Pie several times, and this was one of the most energized crowds I've ever seen. Plus, everyone was sober! Please keep doing events like this! I will definitely be back next year and I will be bringing several friends too. Thank you for a great time!"

"So, I'm super curious how many people were estimated to be at DT at Cherry Pie's concert. It was packed. Event the businesses were packed. This DTN thing is a great idea!! Thanks for organizing it"

"My favorite quote from last night: I have been finding

out lately that I actually do have a lot of really good friends. Downtown Thursday Night has really helped me connect with friends".

"Oh my gosh, please do this again? Will you do this again next year? We loved it!"

"Hey, just wanted to tell you how much we enjoyed the music on Thursday night. First time going and now I'm disappointed we missed going sooner. It kind of reminded me of the good ol' day when everyone would come to Tomah on Friday nights and do their weekly 'shopping' at Steeles, the Cash Store, the Bassinet, the Dime Store, Shutters, Crams, the Red Owl and then grab popcorn from the popcorn wagon and visit everyone on the street (who were also doing their shopping). Good times and a great way to renew and make friendships within your community."

This is a very small sampling of the feedback I have received. People have also contacted me about wanting to look at opening a business here, people have asked about the City's funding opportunities in the downtown district, and people want to know about Tomah's future and growth. Don't get me wrong, this isn't all the result of a concert series, but it is about Tomah (collectively) wanting to build and develop together! Good things are happening in this town because of people like you!

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MEMBERSHIP TIERS

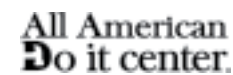
Lead



Influence



Accelerated



Growth

