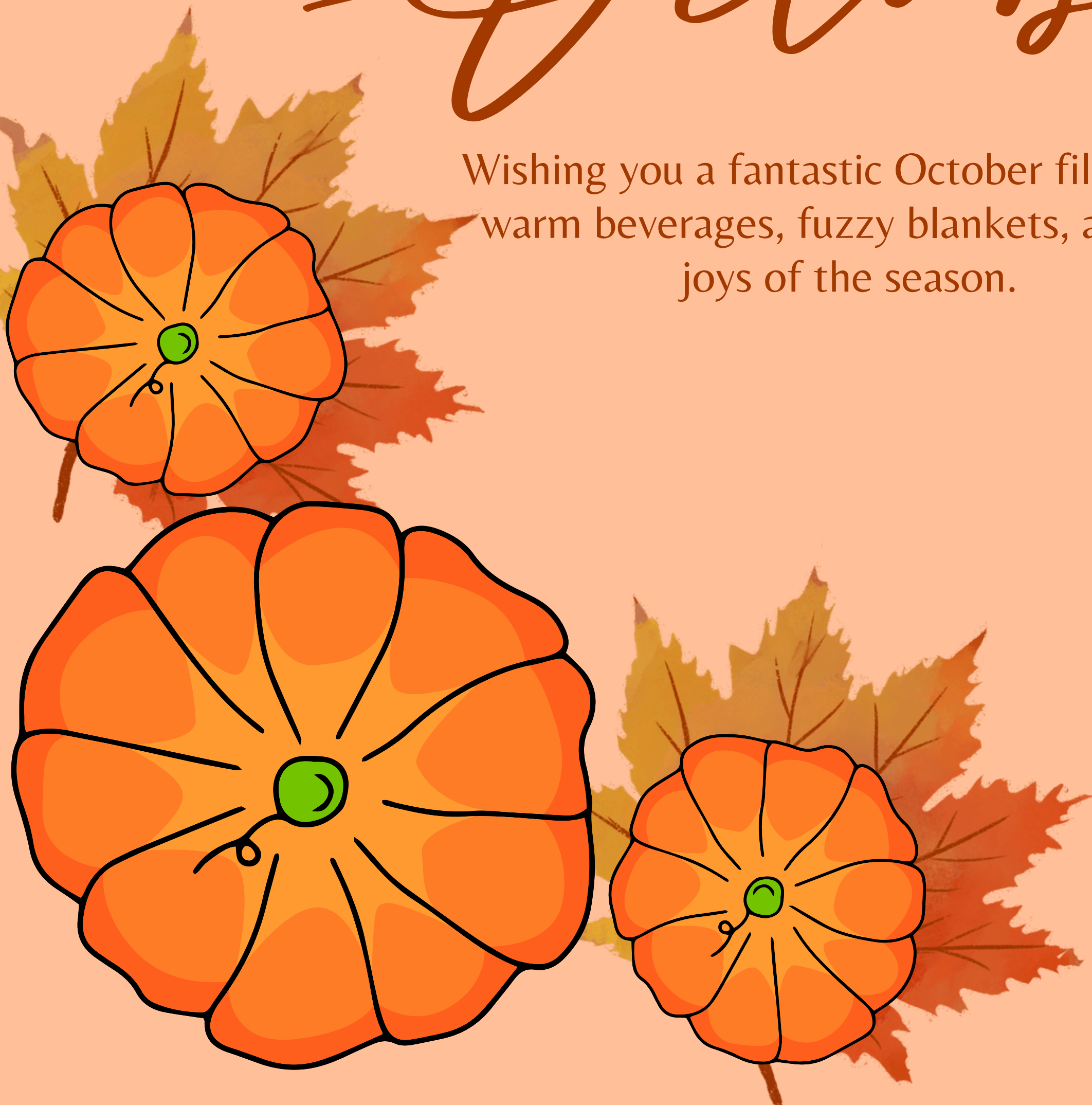




Hello, *October*

Wishing you a fantastic October filled with
warm beverages, fuzzy blankets, and the
joys of the season.



CHAMBER

chat

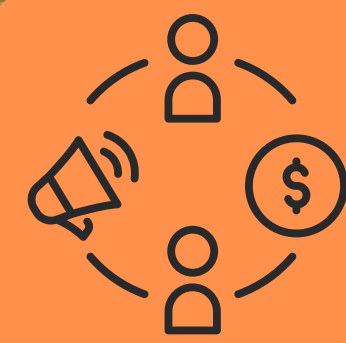
OCTOBER | 2026



NEXT CHAMBER BOARD MEETING

October 13th, 2026 in the Depot
Train Room @ 12:00PM

*We value your input! Our meetings are open for any
Chamber member to attend.*



**Flora
Chamber**
OF COMMERCE

FOUND IN EVERY ISSUE!

- 1** Chamber News
- 2** Member News
- 3** Member Job Postings
- 4** Training Opportunities,
Seminars & Grants!

How to Reach Us!



Online

www.florachamber.com



Phone

618-662-5646



Email

florachamberofcommerce@gmail.com



Follow us on these social media platforms
and stay informed!

ESTABLISHED IN 1939

PH: 618-662-5646

FLORACHAMBER.COM

Chamber Event



Caffeinate & Collaborate

Join us for our monthly networking event!

Come and connect with other professionals, share what you do, and build meaningful relationships.

Pastries and drinks provided by The An-So Agency

Date: Wednesday October 7th

Time: 8am - 9am

Location: An-So Agency



Chamber Event

FLORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

HALLOWEEN PARADE!

Come join the spookiest parade in town!

October 31 | 7:00 PM
Downtown Flora

Dress in your best costume . Collect sweet treats along the way

Chamber Members Who Accept Chamber Bucks:

- Two Glitzy Girlz
- Rustic Treasurers
- Eckleberry Barber
- Green Sprout Living
- Beautiful Strandz
- Curfew
- Poed Smoked BBQ
- Arriel Starr Photography
- Starrlight Studio
- Country Closet
- Flora Dairy Queen
- Angelas Village Florist
- Eagle Station
- Precision Eyecare Center Flora
- Samantha Bennet Hair Artistry
- Tower Devolpment and Rentals
- Anonymous Flippers
- Flora Battery and Alternator
- Pip & Kate
- Poes Home Improvement
- Rodeway Inn
- 808 Scrap Metal Recycling
- Yates Lawn & Landscaping
- Flower Ginny
- RG Outdoors
- Cisne Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center
- VFW
- The Mustard Seed
- The Country Lamb
- Salt & Strings Butchery
- Ali's Beauty Barn
- Mr. Fix-All Flora
- The Gym
- Storm Brewing
- Wash-N-Run
- Grandmas Kitchen
- Flora's Diner
- LaDonna Photography
- LaDonna's Flowers
- Los Tres Caminos
- La Fuente
- Addie Shuree Bows
- The Glow Room - Beauty Lounge

Want your business listed? Contact Flora Chamber of Commerce - 618-662-5646

2026 Scarecrow Decorating Contest

Sponsored by: The Flora Chamber of Commerce

- Open to ALL Businesses, Organizations or Individuals!
- Registration opens Oct. 1st
- Put up your Scarecrow anytime from October 1st-18th at or near the front entry of your establishment or home.
- Judging will start Oct. 19th and end on Oct. 26th.
- Winners announced Oct. 27th in the afternoon. Visit the Chamber Facebook page to cast your vote that week!

Yard Signs for People's Choice & Mayor's Choice.

Photos of all participating scarecrows will be posted in an album on the Flora Chamber of Commerce Facebook page on October 19th. "like" or "react" or comment on the photos to place your vote. If you don't have Facebook, you may stop by the chamber office to cast your vote.

Registration:

Business/Individual Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return completed form by October 16th to participate.
Mail to 223 W. Railroad St., or email to florachamberofcommerce@gmail.com.
Call 618-662-5646 for more information.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Fall Into Flora

DOWNTOWN SHOPS | VENDORS | GAMES | AND MORE

NOVEMBER 6
5:00PM - 9:00PM

NOVEMBER 7
9:00AM - 1:00PM

FLORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
618-662-5646

ALSO KNOWN AS
MOONLIGHT MADNESS

**FREE
ENTRY!**

MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP

LEARN ABOUT THE MEMBER
PORTAL AND HOW TO GET
THE MOST OUT OF YOUR
MEMBERSHIP

**21 OCTOBER,
8:30–9:30AM**

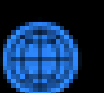
FLORA DEPOT

MEMBERS ONLY
FREE ENTRY

REGISTER NOW!



**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
ARRIEL**

 618-662-5646  Florachamber.com

 223 West Railroad Street
Flora, IL 62839

Member News

NOW BOOKING

Christmas

MINI SESSIONS



ONLY
\$80

INCLUDES A 30 MINUTE SESSION WITH
EDITED HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES &
PRINT RELEASE

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!



WNOI CRAZY CHRISTMAS RADIO AUCTION

Saturday, November 7th, 2026, 8 a.m.

Listen to 103.9FM, 99.3FM, Wabash Ch 97,
WNOI/Clay County Country Apps
or click "LISTEN LIVE" on wnoi.com



CALL 618-662-8331 to BID!

BID by PHONE! PAY by PHONE!



PHOTOS & DETAILS
added daily to
www.wnoi.com

Shop LOCAL from HOME
And
SAVE!!!



Guest Auctioneer
Bruce Dickey

Ribbon Cutting

THE AN-SO AGENCY

Join the Flora Chamber of Commerce
as we celebrate An-So Agency with a
ribbon cutting to welcome them to our
community!

October 7th 2026
829 W. North Ave, Flora, IL 62839
Starting at 9AM



Member News

**THINKING
ABOUT HOW TO
TALK TO YOUR
CHILDREN
ABOUT
NICOTINE
VAPES?**

IRB26-0877



**SHARE
YOUR
OPINIONS!**

ELIGIBILITY:

- Parents with children ages 11-21 who may have tried or been exposed to nicotine vaping

STUDY INVOLVES:

- 75-minute virtual (Zoom) focus group
- \$30 compensation



**SCAN TO
APPLY!**



AT THE FOREFRONT
**UChicago
Medicine**



Beyond the Bell
Learn • Grow • Belong
REAL KIDS. BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL
A Brighter Future Happens Here.
27TH ANNUAL NATIONWIDE CELEBRATION
OCTOBER 22, 2026
Opportunity. Community. Support. Success.

Stronger Students. Stronger Communities.

Explore. Create. Belong.

Friends. Opportunities. Brighter Futures.

OPEN HOUSE AT BEYOND THE BELL

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND
Dinner: 3:00 – 4:00 PM
Activities & Open House: 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Join us for **Lights On Afterschool!** Come tour our program, meet our staff, enjoy dinner, and see what our youth are learning, creating, and accomplishing.

OUR CORE SERVICE AREAS

- Academic Support
- Life Skills
- Mentoring
- Recreation
- STEM/STEAM
- Service Learning
- Social-Emotional Learning

After school lights brighter tomorrows.

#LightsOnAfterschool
Safe Spaces. Supportive People. Brighter Futures.

A Teen REACH Program funded in whole through the Illinois Department of Human Services

IDHS
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Can you tell me how to get how to get to...

**4th annual
Trick or Treat
SESAME STREET**

**618
CLAY COUNTY**

-and-
EXPLORE-A-TRUCK

This is where we meet!

**Clay County Fairgrounds
October 8th, 2026
3:30-6 p.m.**

**You can count on:
Community Resources
Giveaways
Games and Prizes
Big Trucks**

FREE Hot Dogs, Face Painting, and Balloon Artist!

If you are a local agency or volunteer-based organization that would like to set up a booth, please contact April at 618-662-4406

Food, face painting and balloon artist were made possible by a donation from the Clay County Community Health Foundation. THANK YOU!

Clay County Health Department

Member News



THE AN-SO INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
Your Hometown, Homegrown Independent Insurance Agency.



VICKI FARLEY
INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENT
Local. Trusted. Here for You.

MEDICARE

QUESTIONS? WE'VE GOT ANSWERS.

An On-Site Medicare Insurance Agent (Vicki Farley) will be here to help you with all things Medicare!



Medicare Advantage Plans



Part D Prescription Coverage



Medigap Supplement Plans



Comparing Options



General Medicare Questions

Because Medicare can feel overwhelming... You don't have to figure it out alone.





VICKI WILL BE IN OUR OFFICE EVERY THURSDAY DURING AEP
October 15 – December 7
Stop by to ask questions, review your options, or just get some helpful information!
Call Vicki directly at **(618) 417-5407**



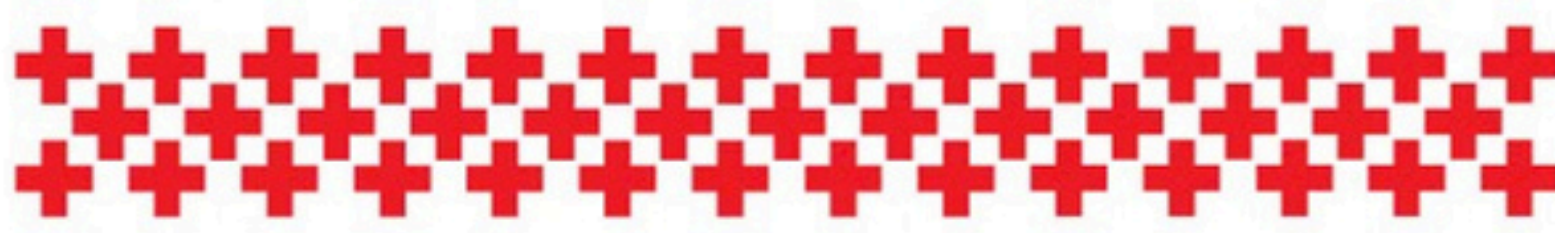
The An-So Insurance Agency, Inc.
829 W North Ave | Flora, IL



618-213-2800

Your Hometown, Homegrown Independent Insurance Agency.

American Red Cross



Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.
Help save lives.

Give blood.

Flora Church of the Nazarene Blood Drive

Gym
Route 50 and Parsons Lane
Flora, IL 62839

**Thursday, October 15, 2026
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org.

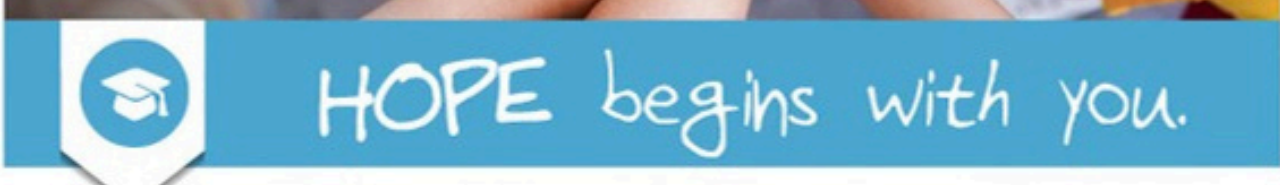
You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass for more information.

Fall into the habit of donating! Get a \$15 e-gift card when you come to give blood Sept. 21-Oct. 18.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App



American Red Cross



Clay City High School Blood Drive

Sponsored by Clay City HS Student Council

Gym
607 Walnut St SE
Clay City, IL 62824

**Thursday, October 29, 2026
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass for more information.

By donating at this blood drive, you are helping one or more graduating seniors earn a scholarship!

All presenting donors receive a Red Cross t-shirt, while supplies last!

Come to give blood Oct. 19-Nov. 22 for a \$10 Amazon Gift Card by email PLUS earn 200 bonus points toward exclusive Donor Rewards! See rcblood.org/Maze for details.

RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Download the Blood Donor App



MR. FIX-ALL
OF FLORA
FIXING THE LITTLE THINGS. IMPROVING YOUR HOME.

Greetings All! Mr. Fix-All is having an October special on winterizing. Avoid frozen pipes, drafty rooms, leaking doors and windows, electrical and heating dangers, and everything else unpleasant that winter brings. Check those foundation vents, and steps and rails also. Mr. Fix-All will provide a no-cost inspection and show you what needs to be done, and what it will cost. Clean, polite, dependable service from a neighbor. That's Mr. Fix-All.

Member News



Stop by our new office site for an OPEN HOUSE

Thursday Oct 1st
From 1-3 PM

New Flora Location

23 Greenlaw Blvd
Flora, IL 62839



WOMEN'S BUSINESS MONTH 2026

Office Hours- Connect with Us in Southeast Illinois!

Looking for business resources and don't know where to begin?

Join the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) at one of the in-person office hours in the Southeast Region where we will connect you to state government resources and beyond! Tailored for women-owned businesses of all stages & industries and future female entrepreneurs. Business owners of all genders and community members from all industries are also welcome!

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

10:00 am - 12:00 pm at the Flora Public Library
216 N. Main Street, Flora, IL 62839
[Register at bit.ly/46DDmW0](https://bit.ly/46DDmW0)



Presented by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), with support from the Flora Public Library, the Illinois Small Business Development Center at the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges (IL SBDC at IECC), and the State Small Business Credit Initiative Technical Assistance (SSBCI TA) Program Provider for Region 6 - Justice Petersen Housing and Reinvestment Corporation.

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

2:00 - 4:00 pm at the Charleston Carnegie Public Library
6th St & Van Buren Avenue, Charleston, IL 61920
[Register at bit.ly/4dRt8Fj](https://bit.ly/4dRt8Fj)



Presented by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) with support from the Charleston Carnegie Public Library, the Illinois Small Business Development Center at Eastern Illinois University (IL SBDC at EIU), and the State Small Business Credit Initiative Technical Assistance (SSBCI TA) Program Provider for Region 6 - Justice Petersen Housing and Reinvestment Corporation.

For additional business resources, business directories featuring Illinois women-owned businesses, and events, please visit DCEO's National Women's Business Month's webpage.



Printed by Authority of the State of Illinois. Order 2711 9/2026 Qty 50



GO FOR A SPIN. HELP SAVE A LIFE. Give Blood.

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Flora Chamber of Commerce Blood Drive

Sponsored by Flora Odd Fellows Lodge #151 and Flora Chamber of Commerce

Flora Oddfellows Lodge #151
231 E North Ave
Flora, IL 62839

Wednesday, November 25, 2026
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org.

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass for more information.



Go for a spin. Help Save A Life. Give Blood. Come to give blood Nov. 23-Dec. 6 for an exclusive American Red Cross x Wheel of Fortune mug, while supplies last!

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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No Cost Excel Training

For Beginner's

October 27th
At Terry L. Bruce West Richland Center
Room 103
Time 9am-3pm

\$15000 Value

Scan to register



Member News



ILLINOIS EASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGES
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY



FRONTIER PRESENTS COMPUTERS FOR BEGINNER'S

October 6th 11:30 am-4:30pm
October 22nd 12pm-4pm
Register Today



EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP SAVE THE DATE

October 15th At Frontier
Community College 8am-12pm

- Learn up to date information on the Illinois Paid Leave Act changes
- Info. from Illinois Dept. of Employment Security



Hear from Mary Warren, Program
Director of the USDA
Scan here to register!



Welcome



**The Glow Room
Beauty Lounge**



Welcome
NEW
CHAMBER
MEMBER



**Triple R Accounting
& Creations**



Welcome
NEW
CHAMBER
MEMBER



DC Weld



Welcome
NEW
CHAMBER
MEMBER



**Life Unlocked
with Jenny**



Welcome
NEW
CHAMBER
MEMBER



**Addie Shurree's
Bows**



Welcome
NEW
CHAMBER
MEMBER



Wash-N-Run



Welcome
NEW
CHAMBER
MEMBER



A promotional graphic for StaffQuick. The background is light pink with black radiating lines emanating from the center, creating a 'burst' or 'explosion' effect. At the top left is the StaffQuick logo, which consists of three horizontal green bars of increasing length followed by the text 'StaffQuick' in a black serif font. Below the logo, the text 'JOB EXPLOSION!' is written in large, bold, green, all-caps sans-serif font. Underneath that, the word 'Over' is in a smaller, bold, green, all-caps sans-serif font. At the bottom of the main text area, '50 Openings!' is written in the same large, bold, green, all-caps sans-serif font. A thick black curved line separates this text from the contact information at the bottom right. The contact information includes a phone number '618-662-8400', an address '921 East North Avenue', and a city/state/zip 'Flora, IL. 62839'. To the left of the address is a black rounded rectangle with the white text 'SCHEDULE NOW!' in all caps.

StaffQuick
JOB EXPLOSION!
Over
50 Openings!

SCHEDULE NOW! 618-662-8400
921 East North Avenue
Flora, IL. 62839

**Drop into your portal and
submit job postings!
We'll help promote them!**

Thank you for your continued support!

FLORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

223 W. RAILROAD ST.
FLORA, IL 62839

618-662-5646 PHONE/FAX

EMAIL:
FLORACHAMBEROFCOMMERCE@GMAIL.COM

OFFICE HOURS:
TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, & FRIDAYS
8 AM TO 5 PM (CLOSED FOR LUNCH)



THE MEMBERS CREED

I BELONG TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BECAUSE: I REALIZE
IN UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH; IT IS THE BEST MEDIUM FOR
SERVING MY COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE; I BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE
GROWTH AND PROGRESS OF MY CITY; IT'S ONLY QUALIFICATION
FOR MEMBERSHIP IS GOOD CITIZENSHIP; I WANT TO WORK WITH
MY FELLOW TOWNSMEN FOR THE COMMON INTEREST OF ALL; I
WANT TO BENEFIT FROM THEIR CONCERTED PLANNING, COUNSEL,
AND ACTION; IT IS A CLEARING HOUSE FOR BUSINESS INFORMATION,
BUSINESS SERVICE, AND COMMUNITY EFFORT; MEMBERSHIP
PAYS A HIGH RATE OF INTEREST IN SERVICE, PERSONAL
CONTACTS, COMMUNITY BETTERMENT AND CIVIC PRIDE;
EXPERIENCE AND THE RECORDS OF THE PAST HAVE CONCLUSIVELY
DEMONSTRATED ITS USEFULNESS AND JUSTIFIED EXISTENCE, NOT
ONLY IN THIS COMMUNITY BUT IN PRACTICALLY EVERY OTHER PART OF
THE WORLD.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: DOUG LEAK

VICE PRESIDENT: MICHAEL GILL

TREASURER: CHRIS THOMPSON

DIRECTORS

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SMITH, GREG SCHAFFER, WILLIAM POE, JULIA WILLIAMS, CHARITY FUEHNE,
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