

# Pipeline

A publication of The Monroe County Chamber of Commerce

DECEMBER 2012

Upcoming Events..... 1  
Members in the News..... 2  
Chamber Election Results..... 3  
Calendar ..... 4

## 2012 Small Business of the Year Nomination Form

See complete nomination  
form attached!

Please carefully review the criteria below. If you are aware of a business that meets or exceeds the stated criteria, please complete the form below and return to

*The Chamber by Friday, December 28, 2012.*

**For the purpose of this award, Small Business is defined as a company with 100 or fewer employees.**

### CRITERIA

- ✓ Nominee must be owner or C.E.O. of a for-profit, non-franchised **independent small business** (not affiliated with a parent company; do not receive funding from any associated agency, business or organization; completely self sufficient)
- ✓ Nominated businesses must have been in business for at least five years
- ✓ Must have demonstrated growth and entrepreneurship.
- ✓ Demonstrated extensive community service and leadership ability



**Award will be  
presented at  
Annual Meeting  
& Gala on Saturday  
March 16, 2013**



**The Chamber is getting an entirely new website!** We will roll it out in January and provide our members with EASY TO USE, STATE OF ART TECHNOLOGY that will empower you to increase visibility for your business as well as register for events and attach You Tube links & photos to your listing. We ask for your patience and understanding as we transition to this upgraded technology. At present, if you find it cumbersome to utilize our current website – please just R.S.V.P. for events by responding to e-blasts (chamber@monroecountychamber.com) or by calling Tammy Clark, Customer Service Representative at 734.384.3366 x.1.

**Maximize your  
membership  
an orientation  
for all members**



**Thursday, December 13th  
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**AT THE CHAMBER**

**Learn how to  
Maximize  
the return on your  
membership investment**

**Monroe County  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**Annual Meeting  
AND  
Gala**

**SATURDAY  
March 16, 2013  
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**Monroe Golf & Country Club  
611 Cole Rd., Monroe**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**How to register for Chamber events and SAVE MONEY: [www.monroecountychamber.com](http://www.monroecountychamber.com)**

## Officers

**Brian Reicker**, Chairperson  
*Tim Hortons*

**Greg Kreps**, Chairperson-Elect  
*Kreps Building Company, Inc.*

**Barry Buschmann**, Treasurer  
*Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.*

**Michelle Dugan**, Secretary  
*The Chamber*

**Tom Myers** (Advisor), Past Chairman

## Board of Directors

**Annette Phillips**  
*Mercy Memorial Hospital System*

**Randy Daniels**  
*Monroe County Community College*

**John Kauffman**  
*DTE Energy*

**Mark Abramson**  
*Robison, Curphey & O'Connell*

**Jeanine Bragg**  
*Monroe Publishing Company*

**Christine Donahue**  
*Donahue Eyecare*

**Merel Keck**  
*Wells Fargo Advisors*

**Josh LaRoy**  
*Advanced Plumbing*

**Don Lieto**  
*Monroe Bank & Trust*

**Norm Johnson**  
*Red Wing Shoes*

## Staff

**Michelle Dugan**  
*Executive Director*

**Lou Bonanni**  
*Member Services Manager*

**Erika Hunt**  
*Operations Assistant*

**Tammy Clark**  
*Customer Service Representative*

**Contact us**  
734-384-3366  
734-384-3367 (fax)  
chamber@monroecountycommerce.com

**Web site**  
www.monroecountycommerce.com



## Our Mission

*The mission of the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce is to stimulate economic growth and enhance the quality of life in Monroe County.*

## members IN THE NEWS

### CBC CREDIT SERVICES, INC.

CBC Credit Services, Inc. of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan recently completed its asset purchase of CBM Credit Services, Inc. (aka Credit Bureau Systems). CBC Credit Services, Inc. founded in 1940 and incorporated in 1966, offers a full range of third party collection services as well as other related business office services. The Monroe office is staffed by local people who are eager and ready to serve your collection needs. Call them at **734-241-4047** or **800-599-1952**. The office is located at 23 E. Front St, Suite 105 in downtown Monroe.

### CUSTER ESTATES

Nestled in the comforts of Monroe, Custer Estates Apartments offers spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms with modern GE appliances including a dishwasher and huge walk in closets. Located in Frenchtown, an area of Monroe rich in American History and centrally located just 20 minutes from Toledo, 35 minutes from Detroit and 40 minutes from Ann Arbor. Experience the convenience and quality of living you deserve at Custer Estates. Their caring staff will take the worry out of your maintenance needs and you can enjoy the beautifully landscaped grounds and so much more. They offer Corporate furnished housing and short term leases as well as full term leases. For more information please call **734-384-0044**.

### EDWARD JONES INVESTMENTS

#### Office of Monica Wagner

*Don't Take a "Holiday" from Working toward Financial Goals.* The holidays can be joyous — and expensive. To stay on track toward your financial goals this holiday season, consider these suggestions: for gift giving & holiday parties, set a budget — and stick to it; do some comparison-shopping; minimize the use of credit cards; if you do use a card, pick the one with the lowest interest rate and pay it off quickly; avoid dipping into long-term investments (to avoid incurring fees and penalties) and finally, after the holidays are over, start a fund for next year. By putting away even a small amount each month into a low-risk, liquid account, you may end up with enough to brighten the next holiday season. For additional information or to schedule a no cost appointment, contact Monica Wagner at **734-241-3540**, monica.wagner@edwardjones.com, www.edwardjones.com.

### J. HENRY LIEVENS OVER HALF OF AMERICANS DIE WITHOUT A WILL

According to recent statistics, over half of Americans die without a will. If you die without a will (intestate), the law specifies who will receive your estate. If you don't plan ahead, your hard-earned legacy could go to unintended heirs or even the government.

Writing your will is one of the most important things you may ever do. You can leave your property to anyone you wish — family, friends, charitable organizations and so on.

In the same way that you have authority over what to do with your property during your lifetime, take responsibility for what happens to it after your death. For additional information or to schedule an appointment to prepare a will, contact J. Henry Lievens at **734-242-6363**.

### QUALITY INN & SUITES

The Quality Inn & Suites would like to thank everyone who participated in the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce Grub Crawl. **Congratulations to the three winners of the Jacuzzi or Suite rooms.**

- Sharon Riley La Z Boy
- Joe LaRoy LaRoy Doors
- Terrie Hamilton The Mannik & Smith Group

Please keep them in mind, if you are planning a wedding reception, rehearsal dinner, shower, business meeting or any other event. Plan a relaxing over night stay at the hotel, enjoy a cocktail at our lounge and a complimentary deluxe breakfast in the morning.

### MERCY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL SYSTEM (MMHS)

#### New Hire Policy

MMHS will begin hiring only candidates who commit to a nicotine free lifestyle effective on December 3, 2012. MMHS is among several other health systems in Michigan and Ohio who have adopted similar nicotine-free hiring policies. "It's the right thing to do for the health and well-being of the community."

Those who are candidates on or after December 3, 2012 will be requested at the pre-employment interview to sign a statement declaring they are nicotine free and can abide by a nicotine free work environment. All candidates will be tested for the presence of nicotine in their systems as part of the new hire physical exam. If the presence of nicotine is detected in the candidate's system, the candidate may reapply in 90 days for available positions.

### MMH Home Respiratory Care

Mercy Memorial's Home Respiratory Care moved from its storefront on North Macomb Street across from Mercy Memorial Hospital to its new location at 1070 N. Monroe Street, Suite C in Monroe (Delisle Center). The phone number is (734) 240-8888. Business hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Home Respiratory Care's new location opened Monday, October 29 at 7:30 a.m. Patients can expect the same high-quality home respiratory equipment, supplies and support from the trained clinicians and technicians including:

Home oxygen, PAP equipment for sleep apnea, Aerosol therapy equipment, One-on-one education and personalized assessments, Instructions in your home or at their new facility.

### LET REPAYS COMMUNITY DURING THE HOLIDAYS

During the week of December 10-15 a canned-good can turn into a FREE bus ride! Simply place a non-perishable food item in the driver's box when you board any LET bus and receive a free one-way ride. The offer is available system-wide (except for contracted and agency services) and food donations will benefit the St. Joseph's Food Closet.

Now in its 27th year, St. Joseph's Food Closet services and distributes to more than 100 needy families on a weekly basis. The food collected for the Food Closet makes a huge difference to the families they help. Since 1998, LET has collected more than 22,000 cans of food for the Food Closet.

## Welcome New Members

### Barnhart Crane & Rigging

#### Becky Thompson

40 Port Avenue  
Monroe, MI 48161  
rthompson@barnhartcrane.com  
Heavy Lift, Transport, Rigging

### Miller Vein

#### Michael Mondalek

1040 N. Monroe Street  
Monroe, MI 48162  
mikem@millervein.com  
Physicians & Surgeons

### Tres Amigos Bar & Grill

#### Mike Thorn

8504 Secor Road  
Lambertville, MI 48144  
mthorn49@bex.net  
Restaurants

## Chamber News

### Election Results

The following have been elected by the membership to serve a three (3) year term.

#### CHRISTINE DONAHUE

*Donahue Eye Care*  
(second term)

#### RUSSELL YAKESCH

*Guardian Industries*

We wish to thank our outgoing Board Member:

**RANDY DANIELS**, *Monroe County Community College*  
for his years of service!

#### OFFICERS For 2013 will be:

##### GREG KREPS, Chairperson

*Kreps Construction*

##### BARRY BUSCHMANN, Chair Elect

*Mannik & Smith Group*

##### ANNETTE PHILLIPS, Treasurer

*Mercy Memorial Hospital*

happy  
holidays



The Chamber Office  
will be closed:

Monday, December 24

Tuesday December 25

Monday, December 31

Tuesday, January 1

Wishing you and your business a warm  
holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

~The Monroe County Chamber of Commerce ~

## 2013 Directory

Most of our members received a special delivery on November 15 from a Chamber volunteer – your 2013 Business Directory & Community Profile. If you did receive the books, please let us know if your listing data is not accurate ([chamber@monroecountychamber.com](mailto:chamber@monroecountychamber.com)). Despite our best efforts to obtain updated information from all of our members, sometimes errors do occur. It is most helpful when members take a few minutes to provide us with changes via the verification forms that we send out in the spring soliciting correct information on your business. The good news is this – if your data is not accurate in the book, we can update your listing on our website within a week!

If you did not receive a directory yet, yours will be mailed to you soon. If you prefer to pick one up at The Chamber office, please contact Lou Bonanni, Member Services Manager to make arrangements ([lou@monroecountychamber.com](mailto:lou@monroecountychamber.com)).

## Remember...

**You register for most Chamber events and can save money by registering online.**

**Check it out at [www.monroecountychamber.com](http://www.monroecountychamber.com).**



### Payment Policy

Please check your calendar before you confirm attendance at a Chamber event. All reservations made by a member and not cancelled 10 days prior to the event will be invoiced. For your convenience, Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted.

\$5 processing fee will be added to each person attending every time we have to invoice!





P.O. Box 626  
Monroe, MI 48161

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

### DECEMBER

**13** **maximize** your  
**membership**  
AT THE CHAMBER  
4:00-5:00 P.M.

*The Chamber is closed on these days!*

**DECEMBER 24, 25 & 31**

**JANUARY 1**



### SAVE THE DATE!



tip of the month

TIP OF THE MONTH: The Chamber offers **greatly discounted rates** for nearly all of our events if you respond to the e-blast offers by the deadline. Please pay attention to the dates, as this could allow you the opportunity to bring additional people to an event at no additional cost.







Karen Essary - Owner

**Couture by  
Karen  
Inc.**

Custom Drapery  
and Blinds

734-243-1757

[www.customdraperyandblinds.com](http://www.customdraperyandblinds.com)

# Beautiful Draperies & Great Savings



## Our Exclusive 4-way guarantee

*On time appointments*

*Best price anywhere for equivalent quality and service*

*Best quality and workmanship*

*10 year performance assurance*

*We offer full service and come to you with all these products & more  
Blinds – Drapery – Valances – Shutters – Bedding - Pillows*



## Tip of the Month

Do you still have naked windows?  
As much as 50% of your home's heating energy  
is lost through its windows.  
You don't have to sacrifice your view to save on  
your energy bills and protect your interior  
furnishings from fading.



## January "Cuddle Up" Coupon

Dress Your Bed in Style

25% Off Custom Bedding  
Collections by

*Eastern Accents*

Expires January 31, 2013



we bring you  
**exciting!**  
**windows!**  
exceptional at-home service  
exclusive 4-way guarantee

Call us today to take advantage of our convenient,  
no charge In-Home Consultation.  
We can show you how to make your windows  
and your view of the world beautiful!

**exciting!**  
**colors!**  
Certified Color Specialist



We are excited to announce effective November 12, 2012 we have moved. Our new address is 110 E. Elm Monroe, MI 48162.

Our phone number remains the same 734.625.6964

We appreciate your continued support!

Tim Gossiaux  
Jamie Gossiaux





You Can  
Trust Us to  
Make  
You Look  
Good  
Everytime.

*Sincerely*

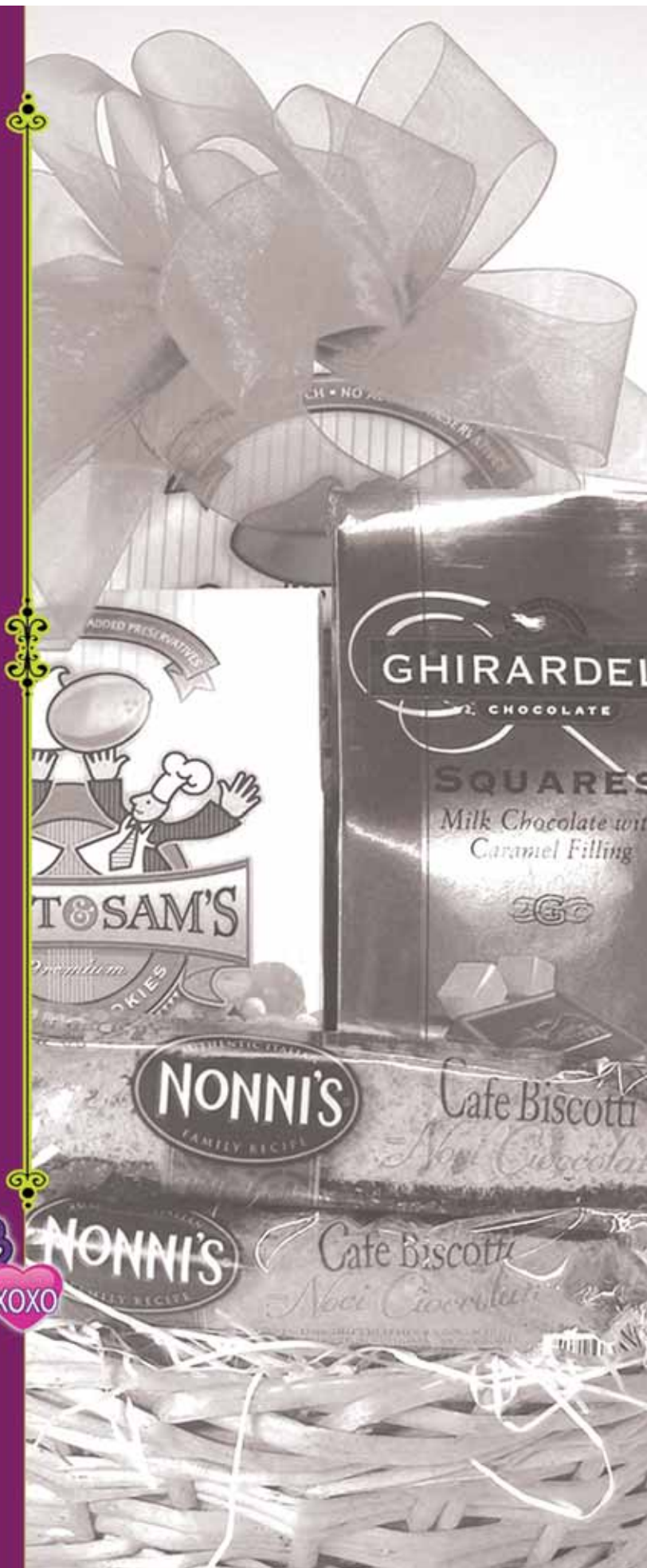
David & Eva Sutton  
and Your team  
at Monroe Florist

**Gourmet Food Baskets**  
**Stunning Flowers**  
**Wine & Champagne**  
**Plants & Gifts**  
**Much More!**

**MONROE Florist** 

Call 24/7  
**(734) 242-6565**  
**[www.monroeflorist.biz](http://www.monroeflorist.biz)**

747 S. Monroe St. at 8th St.



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- ✓ Demonstrated extensive community service and leadership ability

Nominee name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I feel he/she is a qualified nominee because (reasons need to closely relate to a majority of criteria):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, December 28, 2012 (NO EXCEPTIONS)**
2. Only signed nomination forms will be accepted
3. Return all nomination forms via **FAX: 734-384-3367** or **email to [chamber@monroecountychamber.com](mailto:chamber@monroecountychamber.com)** or **mail to: Monroe County Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 626, Monroe, MI 48161.**

Nominator (your name): \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator business: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** a follow-up form will be sent to the nominee for additional information.  
If you want to nominate more than one person or business please copy this form.



**If you have any questions please call 384-3368  
or email [chamber@monroecountychamber.com](mailto:chamber@monroecountychamber.com)**