

CHAMBER INSIDER



Featured Chamber Member of the Month - January 2017

MDC Environmental Services

Thank you to all the businesses who participated in the 2016 "Where's Chance?" Challenge.

Chamber Chance had a great time visiting all the different locations, and each day posted his whereabouts with a clue on Facebook.

Chance will be back in December 2017.

HOME & BUSINESS EXPO

Due to declining participation, the Marengo-Union Chamber of Commerce has decided to **cancel** the 2017 Home & Business Expo. We will alternate years and be back in 2018.

The holidays are over and all the presents have been unwrapped, family dinners have been eaten and leftovers discarded, and your garbage needs to be taken out again. Do you really know what happens to your garbage when it is put into the back of that garbage truck?

Every single day, MDC Environmental Services has 51 trucks that each pick up 10 tons of garbage per truck. Each day, each driver makes the trip to the landfill in Rockford to dump the garbage collected. When you recycle, the product is dumped in a large warehouse in Marengo, at which time it is loaded into semis and hauled to Homewood, Illinois with an average of 6 semi trailers per day. By sorting the recyclables, it saves landfill space and is processed to be re-used. The two biggest recycled items are aluminum cans and cardboard.

MDC Environmental has been in business for 45 years. They have locations in Rockford, which is the call center, Rochelle, Princeton, Freeport and Marengo. The men and women who work at MDC pride themselves on safety, integrity and customer service. With 67 employees, there are numerous employees who have been employed by MDC for over 10 years and one employee has been there for 43 years. Each new employee receives a very strict 6 weeks of training before they go out on their own.

There are 6 mechanics that work 24 hours a day, to keep the fleet running. Every four weeks, each truck gets a full service by one of the mechanics. Safety is their goal.

A typical day at MDC includes a morning safety meeting, route sheets, maps, any big items they may need to pick up, and then out to collect garbage. After the route is done, they drive to Rockford and back to Marengo. Televisions and electronics are no longer picked up by MDC due to strict government regulations.

The biggest impediment MDC faces is the weather conditions. When driving a garbage truck the driver must maneuver carefully around parked cars, playing children, snow banks, ice, and other drivers. Every employee plays a pivotal part in MDC's success.

Congratulations to MDC Environmental for being the January 2017 Chamber Member of the month. They can be reached at: 815-568-5424, or www.mdces.com



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the brightest
minds and the
greatest leaders of
our region.*



Notary Services are available at no cost to all Chamber Members.

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Dates to Remember



2017

January 14, 2017 ~ “Shop Local and Win” submission deadline

January 16, 2017 ~ Office Closed

January 18, 2017 ~ State of the Community Breakfast – 8 am ~ Trio Grille. Reservations required

February 15, 2017 ~ Lunch & Learn with Dave Matts, Executive Director of Workforce, Community & Business Programs – McHenry County College

February 23, 2017 ~ Chamber Mixer/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at WildHeartland Art new gallery – 116 S. State St. (Chamber Office) 5-7 pm.



STATE OF THE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

8am ~ WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 18TH, 2017
Trio Grille
110 Franks Rd. ~ Marengo
\$15.00 per person

GUEST SPEAKERS
Gary Boden, City of Marengo Administrator
State Senator Pamela Althoff
Former State Representative and current
McHenry County Board Chairman - Jack Franks

Marengo Union Chamber of Commerce
Reservations required 815-568-6680

Join us again this year on Wednesday, January 18th at Trio Grille –110 Franks Rd. Marengo. A breakfast buffet will be served at 8am with Gary Boden, Pamela Althoff and Jack Franks as our guest speakers.

Reservations required at 815-568-6680 or

Marengo Community High School Bridge Program

The Bridge Program is designed to help 18-21 year olds develop job and independent living skills by combining efforts of students, parents, MCHS staff, the Illinois Division of Rehabilitation Services and partners in the Marengo Business Community.

If you have considered hiring a part time person, whether it be seasonal or limited to just needing someone a couple hours a week, we encourage you to utilize the MCHS Bridge Program. You can contact Shannie Shroeder, Special Education Teacher at: shroeders@mchs154.org or call the school at 815-568-6511 ext. 1108

Businesses can qualify for up to \$7,400 in federal tax credits when hiring people with disabilities. A national survey of consumer attitudes toward companies that hire people with disabilities showed overwhelming positive attitudes among consumers toward socially responsible companies.