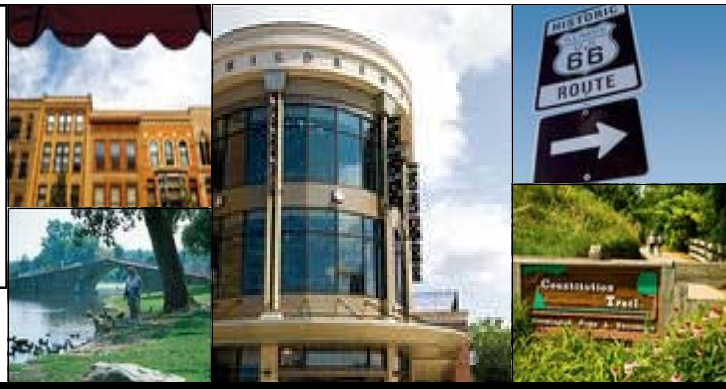


**THE LEADER**  
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March—April 2009



## A Letter From The Chamber

It is officially Spring, and that means everyone and everything is busy! Here at the Chamber we are just as busy. We just held a very successful Agriculture Awareness Breakfast that raised funds to facilitate agriculture education lessons in elementary schools and the Chamber PAC is up and running looking into the issues that affect the membership.

Additionally, the Chamber is holding two exciting programs in April to push Spring into high gear. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, the Chamber hosts the Twin Cities Showcase at the Interstate Center. This expo of business and personal products and services brings everything to your door, so to speak. Regardless of what you need, the Showcase is your place to review multiple vendors and their diverse products and services in one stop. New this year is the Taste of Bloom-

ington-Normal, offering you the opportunity to sample the wonderful food and drink from many of our finest establishments from the Twin Cities.

On April 21st, the Chamber hosts the Administrative Professionals Lunch. Held at the Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center, it will feature speaker Dr. Sheri Everts, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at Illinois State University. In addition, the Chamber will present the new TAP Award, recognizing the Top Administrative Professional in McLean County.

We hope you make time to get involved in these or the many other wonderful Chamber programs to demonstrate how much Leadership we have in the community! For info on the TAP Award, visit [www.mcleancochamber.org](http://www.mcleancochamber.org).

## LMC Alumni Breakfast & Award

As an LMC alumni you've heard the saying "You don't graduate *from* Leadership McLean County, you graduate *into* Leadership." This year will be no different! Leading the day is the annual LMC Alumni Breakfast on April 17th at 7:30am at the Doubletree Hotel. Join

your fellow alumni to support and honor the LMC tradition and to congratulate the 2009 candidates. The guest speaker will be Dr. Sheahon Zenger, Dir. of Athletics at ISU. Look for your invite via email or contact Brian Davis at [brian@mcleancochamber.org](mailto:brian@mcleancochamber.org) to reserve your seat.

You won't want to miss the Annual LMC Alumni of the Year award - have YOU sent in your nomination yet? If not, Brian can help you with that as well. We know there are great alums out there, so let's hear about them from you!

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## Upcoming LMC Events:

- **March 25th - LMC '08 Social**
- **April 3rd - LMC '09 Task Force Presentations**
- **April 17th - Alumni Breakfast**
- **April 17th - LMC Class of 2009 Graduation**

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## Doing Business in McLean County By Anna Kline, Class of 2009

John Wohlwend of Jack Lewis Fine Jewelry started off our session with a discussion around the important role that leadership and integrity play in running a business. Discussions continued as Elizabeth Binning from the Small Business Development Center with ISU shared the multitude of resources that are available to help with starting up a small business. Tony Petersen, tied everything together by discussing first hand what it is like to not only run a small business in McLean County, but also one that has been family owned for over 50 years.

Dr. Joe Solberg and Dr. Rick Ringer with ISU's College of Business, led us on a thought-provoking discussion regarding business ethics. We learned how leaders manage and strengthen a culture by:

- What leaders pay attention to, measure, and try to control.
- How leaders react to critical incidents.
- Rewards and Status (who gets rewarded/punished and why).

As leaders, we are charged with creating an environment in which people naturally select the ethical thing to do.

In the afternoon, we divided into small groups and visited 7 small businesses located in Bloomington-Normal. The discussions throughout the day and the visits to local businesses reinforced the important role that front-line employees play in the success of a business.

### LMC '09 Presentations



You've pondered them for years: Cooking. Laptops. Drugs. Inventory. Youth leadership programs. School supplies. So much in common, but no one-stop seminar for them all. Now the

dream is coming true - LMC '09 Task Force presentations, Friday, April 3, 8:00a-11:30a at the Interstate Center off Rt. 9 in Bloomington.

### Chamber Events



- 3/25 - BBH @ Holiday Inn
- 4/15 - BAH @ Luther Oaks
- 4/17 - LMC Alumni Breakfast @ Doubletree
- 4/17 - LMC Class of 2009 Graduation
- 4/21 - Administrative Professionals Luncheon
- 4/22 - BBH @ Integrity Technology Solutions

## LMC And Beyond By J.T. Bedell, Class of 2001

As I began the class of 2001 I was not sure what I was to expect. Being born and raised in McLean County, I thought I had a good understanding of how everything worked, the history of McLean County, and how I could be involved. LMC was an eye opening experience for me on how government works and how much others give to keep McLean County as strong as it is. As I spoke with past graduates, everyone told me that I would get out of it what I put into it, and I found this to be true.

All my life, on some level, I have been involved in volunteering. Growing up, I was fortunate that my family and those I surrounded myself with were willing to give of themselves for a greater cause. LMC gave me insight into how many people are behind the scenes making a difference for others. LMC helped me realize how grateful we should all be for those in our community who are willing to give so much.

As the Director of Client Solutions with the Burwood Group, I reflect on my various experiences in LMC. It also provided a great network of likeminded individuals to stay involved with for community activities. I encourage others to invest the time in this program as I did and assure them that they will get out of it what they put into it.

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## Government Day by Lindsey Ferrill, Class of 2009

The LMC Class of 2009 recently travelled to Springfield to learn more about our state's government in action. Our first stop was a meeting with State Senator Dan Rutheford, who took time out of his busy schedule to explain the day-to-day workings of the legislature. We then continued to the Capitol Building, where State Representative Dan Brady met us on the House floor and answered a variety of questions from the group.

We also met with Abby Walsh, of State Senator Bill Brady's office. Next, we took a tour of the Capitol Building, including the House and Senate chambers, the Rotunda, the former Illinois Supreme Court and Secretary of State Jesse White's office. We were also shown the outside of the Governor's Office, where Governor Quinn was hard at work. Unfortunately he was not available to meet with LMC, despite the pleas of

Joe McDonald! After our tour we had lunch at the Sangamo Club, where Lori Reimers and Todd Maisch explained their respective roles as lobbyists for State Farm and the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. We finished our day with a wonderful afternoon at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. Thanks to all who helped make the day a success!



## What have YOU been up to lately?

Leadership McLean County doesn't end when you graduate - it's only the beginning! Let us know what you've been up to and what you're working on and we'll be sure to let your LMC alums know where they can reach you to get in touch! Send us your recent achievements, honors, big projects, family updates (everyone loves to hear about a new baby or wedding!), whatever you want to share - and we'll share it! Send info to the LMC Alumni Chair, Matt Giordano at [mtcgjordan@comcast.net](mailto:mtcgjordan@comcast.net).

## Chefs for PATH - April 2nd



The excitement is building for a premier local event "**Chefs for PATH**", taking place on **Thursday, April 2, 2009**, at the **Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts**. This event involves a culinary challenge featuring five local area restaurants/chefs - DESTIHL®, Biaggi's, Swinger's, Reality Bites & Central Station, which includes a tapas round with audience participation and a live cooking finale. You will hear about this event on the local radio stations (WJBC) in the next few days. The goal is to raise much needed funds to benefit the PATH Crisis Center.

Providing Access To Help (PATH) was founded in 1971 with a mission to link people to service in central Illinois. PATH provides a 24/7 crisis, information and referral hotline, services for people age 60 and older and their caregivers, and intervention for people who are homeless in McLean, Livingston and DeWitt Counties. PATH is in the process of establishing "211" phone dial-in capabilities. The start of 211 capabilities will require an upgrade to the existing phone system and a Unified Communication System.

The tickets are of limited availability. The tickets are \$50 per person.

Please contact **Cathy at the PATH office** at **827-4005** for tickets and information.

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## Wheelchair Basketball for LIFE Center



**University of Illinois Wheelchair Basketball Teams  
and**

**Illinois Wesleyan Men's Basketball Teams**

will play an exhibition game on

Saturday, April 25th at the IWU Shirk Center

11:00 am tip-off



Tickets are \$5.00 and children under 5 are free!

Proceeds will benefit the LIFE Center for Independent Living

To buy tickets in advance, call LIFE Center at 663-5433 (Voice/TTY)

Tickets also for sale at the door

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## Facilitator's Corner by Joe McDonald

### **A New E-Birth of Freedom**

Last time I posed the question "New governor?", and now we (and Letterman) have the answer. This had a major impact on LMC.

Government Day's visit with officials and Capitol tour are part of LMC's earliest roots. This year, though, the governor's state budget address threatened to shut down Capitol access. Day chairs Joann Schuster and Kelly TenHaken-Freeman not only juggled several alternate plans, but seized opportunity when the address was postponed. We ended up having the Capitol almost entirely to ourselves!

LMC's e-creativity continues to respond to these challenging economic times.. Tonya Kaberna snapped over 40 photos of Government Day (posted on the LMC Facebook page, which now has over 60 members as well as long-awaited photos and bios of LMC '09). Chamber Staff Brian Davis also introduced online evaluations, which have both saved time and added depth in response quality..

Business Ownership Day chairs Elizabeth Binning, Amy McFarland and Tony Petersen used ISU's College of Business Building and faculty to cover the topics of integrity and ethics. Average score of 8.60 is high praise, and just ahead of the October day featuring husbands John Binning and Michael McFarland (sorry, boys).

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### Dates to Remember:

- April 1st - April Fool's Day
- April 12th - Easter Sunday
- April 22nd - Administrative Professionals Day
- April 24th - Arbor Day
- May 10th - Mother's Day

*Administrative Professionals Day*

