



JAN
2026

LEGACY LEDGER



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2026 LaGrange County Board of Directors Elections

The LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce is excited to present the nominees for the 2026 Board of Directors election. This year, three current board members are up for re-election, and there is one vacancy to fill. A total of six outstanding candidates have been nominated to serve in these 3-year positions.

The nominees up for re-election are:

- Traci Blaize - Lakeland School Corporation
- Dustin Glick - Eberhard, Weimer, & Glick P.C.
- Mervin Lehman - Heartland Mattress

The nominees up for their 1st term are:

- Verlin Lambright - Townline Furniture
- Ben Miller - Ben's Pretzel
- Viviana Guzman - Purdue Extension

Voting will take place during the Chamber's Annual Meeting & Member Showcase event on Thursday, January 15th, at the Blue Gate Performing Arts Center. We encourage all members to attend, as your participation is essential in shaping the future leadership of our Chamber. Together, let's continue to build a strong and vibrant LaGrange County business community!

ANNUAL MEETING 2026

MEMBER SHOWCASE.
LEGACY AWARDS.
BOARD ELECTION

JAN
15
2026

PRESENTED BY:



EBERHARD, WEIMER, & GLICK, P.C.
Attorneys at Law



Welcome Michiana Marketing to the Chamber!

The LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to welcome Michiana Marketing as one of our newest members.

Michiana Marketing brings a fresh, creative approach to helping businesses grow through strategic branding, digital marketing, and storytelling. Their team is passionate about helping organizations stand out, connect with their audiences, and achieve results that move their mission forward. With a focus on relationship-driven marketing and customized solutions, they are a valuable resource for businesses of all sizes in our region.

We are excited to have Michiana Marketing join our Chamber community and look forward to supporting their continued growth and collaboration throughout LaGrange County.

To learn more about Michiana Marketing, you can visit their website at www.michianamarketing.com or call them at 260-585-2418.



Pictured Left-Right: Front Row: Mike Howard, Hosler Realty; Joe Walter, Farmers State Bank; Justin Gentry and his son, Michiana Marketing; Cori Vilardo, First State Bank; and Jennifer Engle. Back Row: Jamie Fennell and Kimberly Hays, LaGwana; Denise Landers, Crossroads United Way; Brett Hahn, Indian Lakes Marketing; and Sara Patrick, LaGrange County Chamber.

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Announcing the 2026 LaGrange County Legacy Award Finalists

The LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the finalists for the 2026 LaGrange County Legacy Awards. These annual honors celebrate the outstanding businesses, organizations, and individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership, service, and impact within our community.

This year's awards feature six categories — Large Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Nonprofit of the Year, Educator of the Year, Professional of the Year, and Young Professional of the Year. The finalists for each category (in no particular order) are:

Large Business of the Year

- Farmers State Bank
- LaGrange Family Dentistry
- LaGrange County REMC

Small Business of the Year

- Kingsbury in Howe
- Fawn River Coffee Co.
- Bloomfield Creative

Non-Profit of the Year

- Community Harvest Food Bank
- Rainbow Years Learning Ministry
- Arc Opportunities

Educator of the Year

- Jennifer Young
- Ron Noll
- Juli Leeper

Professional of the Year

- Renea Boots, Farmers State Bank
- Jared Beasley, Community Health Clinic
- Sonya Nash, LaGrange County CVB

Young Professional of the Year

- Michael Strong, LaGrange County Sheriff's Office
- Amanda Montague, Elijah Haven Crisis Intervention Center

The winners will be revealed during the Chamber's 2026 Annual Meeting on January 15 at the Blue Gate Performing Arts Center. This signature event brings together business leaders, community partners, and local professionals for an afternoon of recognition, inspiration, and celebration.

We extend our congratulations to all the finalists and look forward to honoring their accomplishments as we celebrate another year of growth and progress in LaGrange County.

To register for the Chamber's Annual Meeting, please visit www.lagrangechamber.org, email info@lagrangechamber.org, or call 260-463-2443.





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2025 CHAMBER YEAR-END REVIEW - BY THE NUMBERS

6

The Chamber produced **6 signature annual events** in 2025. Ranging from our Annual Meeting, our educational Small Businesses Workshop, and ConnectHER Conference, to the beloved LaGrange County Power of the Purse, these special events provide the opportunity for members to interact, get involved, and shape the future of LaGrange County.

25

The Chamber had the privilege of being the co-hosts, with our members, over **25 member events** including ribbon cuttings, new member ambassador greetings, ground breaking, and more. No matter how big the occasion we are always ready to celebrate our member businesses and organizations.

24

We know that we are better together. That's why we hosted over **24 networking events** this year ranging from Chamber After Hours, Legacy Launch Pad, our monthly luncheons, and more. We stand committed to fostering community connections, by cultivating a place where business and friendships happen naturally.

54

As our organization continues to grow and expand our programing, so does our membership that is represented. In 2025, we welcomed **54 new members** to the Chamber. It's clear that we continue to provide value to businesses and organizations throughout LaGrange County.



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A Year-End Thank You to Our 2025 Chamber Partners

As we wrap up the year, the LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce extends our heartfelt appreciation to our 2025 Chamber Partners. Your support has played a vital role in advancing our mission, strengthening our programs, and creating opportunities that uplift businesses and our community as a whole.

Thank you for your dedication, your partnership, and your belief in the work we do. We look forward to building on this momentum together in the year ahead.

Our 2025 Partners included:

Platinum:

Bowen Health, LaGwana, Farmers State Bank, Parkview LaGrange Hospital, S&H Metals, Tiffany's Restaurant, and Freedom Finish Works

Gold:

Michiana Event Center, Blue Gate Hospitality

She Snapped Photography, Lake City Bank, Red Door CPA Group, Tire Star of Wolcottville, and Interra Credit Union

Silver:

Eberhard, Weimer, & Glick, Heartland Mattress, Beers Mallers, Mille Poultry, Glen Oaks, Crossroads United Way, Lakeland Towing & Recovery, Hummel Group, Lake Country Landscaping, First State Bank, Fireside Craft Burgers & Brews, and ProFed.

Bronze:

Shipshewana Trading Place, Lewis & Lambright, Alpha Building Center, MedMutual Protect, J.O. Mory, LaGrange Vet Clinic.

Event:

St. Martin's Healthcare (Annual Meeting) and JICI (Golf Classic).

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Discover scaled discounts on any business insurance plans

ODP Business Solutions
Solutions to enhance your business: extra savings, exclusive pricing, and free shipping!

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Virtual Job Board
Find your next employee through online and emailed job boards

CHAMP Plan
Save on your payroll taxes while offering your employees a supplemental health plan

Employee Perks & Discounts

Member2Member
Find savings on all things local, from entertainment to furniture to food and more

Professional Development
Send your team to exclusive training opportunities to elevate your workforce

CHAMP Plan
Boost your takehome pay while also enjoying the benefits of this supplemental health plan

Raise the Tide

"A rising tide lifts all boats."
John F. Kennedy

Investing in economic and community development can benefit everyone who participate in the economy.

MEMBER-ONLY PERKS

BE A LEGACY MAKER TODAY.

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ANNUAL MEETING

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MEMBER SHOWCASE.
LEGACY AWARDS.
BOARD ELECTION

JAN
15
2026

MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER...
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