

April 2024

Rock Valley Chamber NEWSLETTER

97 Members in
2024 so far.
14 BRAND NEW!



3.21.24 BREAKFAST & LEARN



BOYS' BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

1ST QUARTER EVENTS

- Lunch & Learn- January 18th
- Leadership Institute- EDUCATION- February 13th
- Coffee & Connect- February 15th
- Battle of the Bites- March 1st-March 30th
- Boys' Basketball Tournament- March 1st & 2nd
- Leadership Institute- CityWORKS- March 12th
- Breakfast & Learn- March 21st
- 3rd Annual Social Media Easter Egg Hunt
- Spring in the Valley- March 28th



Eat Shop Support
ROCK VALLEY

LUNCH & LEARN'S



Branding & Design- Casey Schafer of Hegg Health Center

Casey Schafer, Marketing Director at Hegg Health Center, spoke at the first Lunch & Learn of the year held at The Lunch House. The topic was Branding & Design, which she does a wonderful job with at Hegg.

There were around 20 members in attendance, and they were able to learn how to separate their business from others using graphics, logos, and more.

The Lunch House provided a buffet meal for attendees, and there were opportunities for our members to network with each other!



Casey told her story growing up, which led to her passion to work in the healthcare industry using her marketing talents. She gave valuable advice and tips for our Chamber businesses!

LUNCH & LEARN'S



**DR. CELINA PEERMAN,
PH.D, SHRM-SCP**

IT IS ALL ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIPS!

Dr. Peerman spoke on a popular Human Resources topic, 'Relationships'. Our members learned how to change their mindsets when it comes to connecting with their employees in different ways.



**BREAKFAST FROM
STONE SOUP CAFE**

LUNCH & LEARN- MARCH 21ST, 2024

The Lunch & Learn in March was hosted by Riverview Ridge Assisted Living on Thursday, March 21st. The Rock Valley Chamber has invested into the Lunch & Learn program for their members this year by hiring professional speakers from the Midwest Speakers Bureau, Inc.

Dr. Celina Peerman, Ph.D., SHRM-SCP, was the first speaker to join us. She currently serves as an organizational psychologist with over 27 years of experience from front line to senior level positions.

Dr. Peerman is passionate about engaging human resources in new ways to achieve even better organizational results. She brought a sense of humor, engaging activities, and professionalism to our event! We couldn't be more excited to have had her speak for our members.

2024 LINE-UP

May 16th- Hegg Health Center

- Ray Cole- 'Hangin' with Winners'

July 18th- Town and Country

- Donna Van Peursem- 'Helping Employees Succeed'

September 19th- Pizza Ranch

- Ronee Anderson- 'Creating a Caring Culture Company'

November 21st- Hope Haven

- Christina Moffatt- 'The Sweet Life: The Life of a Business Owner'

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Leadership Day- CityWORKS

On March 12th, the participants of the Leadership Institute learned all about how the City of Rock Valley operates. They heard from leaders such as the City Administrator, Tom Van Maanen, Development Director, Dave Miller, and Chamber Director, Ashley Feekes.

For lunch, the group went to Pizza Ranch, and they were joined by non-profit organizations, Rotary Club and Rock Valley Kiwanis. A representative from each group was able to tell the story of their organization and what their partnership looks like with the city. The Rotary Club has helped with projects such as the Rock Valley Disc Golf Course and Kiwanis has contributed to projects such as the City Park renovations.

Tours were given in the afternoon of the Police Department, Fire Department, Ambulance, and City Maintenance. The group ended the day working on their class project of the year.



Part of the Leadership Institute program is a class project that the participants have to complete together. The only guidelines that they are given are that it needs to benefit our community in some way. This year's group has decided to do a Waffle Feed Fundraiser benefiting the City Park renovations. This will be held at the Sports Complex on May 11th! Watch for more information coming soon!

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Graduation Day in May!

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, May 14th from 12:00p-2:00p. Our first class of the Leadership Institute is graduating! During the ceremony, you will hear from the class on the success of their fundraiser, an overview of the program, a plan for next year, and a motivational speech from our Graduation Speaker, Aaron Thomas. Cedar Rock will provide lunch as well. We hope to see you there!

**GRADUATION SPEAKER-
AARON THOMAS**

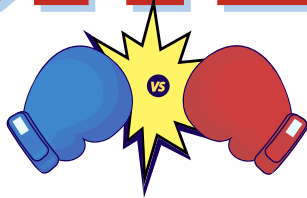


New Board Member!

We welcomed a new Board Member to the Chamber recently! Jasmine Zitt of Wireless World has decided to volunteer her time in contributing to the success of the Rock Valley Chamber and the City of Rock Valley.

We are happy to welcome Jasmine with open arms. She has been an active Chamber member in the past couple years, attending many of our events! Jasmine is also a participant in the Leadership Institute. She is showing her passion as a leader in our community already, and she hasn't even graduated yet. If you see her around, please tell her thank you for taking time out of her busy schedule as a manager, mom, and wife to help continue to make Rock Valley thrive!

BATTLE OF THE BITES



A BRAND NEW EVENT IN ROCK VALLEY!

This event was an absolute HIT in town! With over 14,000 views on the reel anticipating the start of this event in March, we knew our community and surrounding towns were going to have a blast. All of our Chamber restaurants competed by choosing a featured meal that they wanted to highlight. We even had some of them create a completely new meal just for this event!

Participants were able to order the featured meal throughout the month of March. If they ordered 5 out of the 8 restaurants and voted for their favorite online, they were eligible to win a \$250 Chamber Gift Card. Austin Bliet was the lucky winner this year!

The winner of this year's event was Stone Soup Cafe! The Cheesecake Stuffed French Toast was an absolute favorite! Amber created this meal specifically for this event, and she might even add it permanently to her menu after all the compliments.

A big THANK YOU to all our restaurants who competed and made this event fun! We couldn't have done it without your participation.

FEATURED MEALS

- Bistro 67- The Reuben Sandwich
- Cedar Rock- Smothered Pork Cubes
- Cenex- The Dipper Bowl
- Koldy's- Teriyaki Chicken Sandwich
- Pizza Ranch- Buffet
- The Lunch House- The Burgizza
- Stone Soup Cafe- Cheesecake Stuffed French Toast
- Subway- The Subway Club



**RESTAURANT WINNER-
OWNER OF STONE SOUP
CAFE, AMBER UHRICH!**

**OVER 2,500
COMMENTS ON
SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES
FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL
SOCIAL MEDIA EASTER
EGG HUNT!
THANK YOU FOR
JOINING IN ON THE FUN!**



BOYS' B-BALL



1ST PLACE- 6TH GRADE WESTERN CHRISTIAN



NEW ITEMS AT THE CONCESSIONS!

BOYS' BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

This year's Boys' Basketball Tournament brought in nearly 40 teams with over 1,000 people coming to Rock Valley the first weekend of March. These tournaments are the Chamber's biggest fundraisers of the year! We are able to raise money through team registrations, entry fees, and concession stand sales. But we couldn't do it without all of our volunteers! So, thank you to those that donated their time in making yet another tournament a success for us. We raised over \$6,000 at this year's Boys' tournament!

CONCESSIONS

- Autumn Ridge Events- Sweet Treats
- Cenex- Donuts
- Pizza Ranch- Pizza
- Rooted- Coffee and Bottled Lattes
- Subway- Sub Sandwiches
- Sunshine Foods- Drinks/Candy
- Peoples Bank & Premier Bank- Napkins and Popcorn Bags

THANK YOU TO OUR TOURNAMENT SPONSORS!



UPCOMING EVENTS!

BINGO! NIGHT



CHAMBER BINGO NIGHT- APRIL 25TH

Earlybird Pricing ends April 18th! Tickets can be purchased online. Check the Facebook event for more details!

APRIL 18 | 5:00PM
GrandStay Hotel



MIX & MINGLE-MEMBER EVENT

RSVP by April 11th!

Mix & Mingle

MINGO NIGHT

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS' LEADERSHIP AWARD



**APPLICATIONS DUE
JULY 15TH!**

**Download an app
on our website
today!**



Do you know a Junior or Senior?!

The Rock Valley Chamber is offering \$1,000 to a Junior or Senior who participates in the Young Professionals Leadership Award Program. If they'd like to participate, they will out an application and write a 400-word essay answering the question, "As a future leader in our community, what change would you make in Rock Valley?". The Chamber Board will narrow down the applicants to the top 3. These 3 will participate in a Mock Interview, professional dinner, and a round of questions from our judges in front of the Little Miss RV crowd. Then, our judges will choose a winner of the \$1,000 award!



**NEW MEMBER DISCOUNT CARDS
WILL BE DELIVERED SOON!**

MEMBER-TO-MEMBER CARD

VALID APRIL 1, 2024-MARCH 31, 2025



CHAMBER GIFT CARDS

If you take credit cards at your business, you can accept Chamber Gift Cards! Over \$250K have been spent at our Chamber businesses since 2022. Don't miss out on this member benefit.

ROCK VALLEY VALUE PROGRAM



KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR AN EMAIL!

The Rock Valley Value Program is a way for us to stay up to date on statistics within our community of businesses so that we can help our business owners in anyway that we're able to. Please keep an eye out for an email from Ashley Feekes or Dave Miller asking to schedule a time to discuss the survey. There is also an online survey available if you aren't able to meet in person. We will begin this process toward the end of May!

THANK YOU TO OUR CHAMPION AND VISIONARY MEMBERS!

VISIONARY



CHAMPION

