

STRAIGHT FORWARD & ON TARGET

Local Business News You Can Use



JANUARY 2015

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Coming Events

Next Board

Meeting

4:30 p.m.

January 8

City Council Chambers

Business Spotlight: Butler Business & Technology

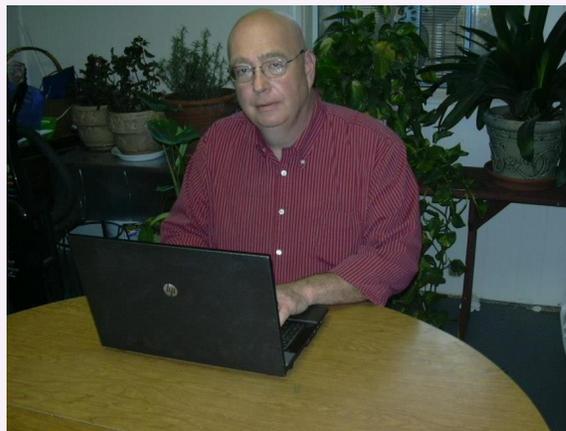
Butler Business & Technology Solutions (BBTS), located in Eldorado, joined the Carmi Chamber of Commerce in 2014. Since completing the "Jump Start" program at The Workforce & Illinois Small Business Development Center (WISBDC) at Southeastern Illinois College, their business plan has evolved from a local computer repair shop, to a new business model for IT services, sales, and support.

In 2014, recognizing that cloud computing and mobility were providing new efficiencies, security, and privacy for small business owners, BBTS applied for, and was accepted into Microsoft's Cloud Partner program. BBTS earned a Microsoft Small Business Sales Specialist accreditation, providing traditional and cloud based business solutions.

Selling Microsoft products and services requires Microsoft Partners to purchase products and licensing through one of Microsoft's global distributors. Ingram Micro (IM), headquartered in Buffalo NY, was chosen by BBTS to be their primary distributor. IngramMicro provides access to over 1,400 suppliers of business products and services, from companies like HP, Dell, IBM, Cisco, and Microsoft, and the sales and technical expertise to provide custom solutions to increasingly complex business environments.

In addition to providing solutions to small businesses, BBTS is a Microsoft Authorized

Education Reseller, providing Microsoft products and services to schools, libraries, and museums. Their first education customer, Southeastern Illinois College, will begin deploying Microsoft Office 365 in 2015! SIC students will receive Office 365 ProPlus software to install on their



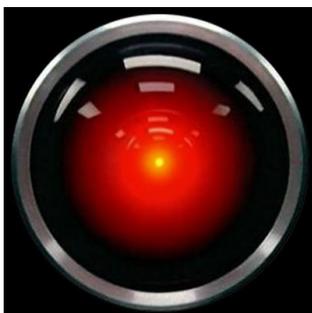
Hal Butler of Butler Business & Technology Services.

computers, laptops, tablets, and phones, at no charge!

What's planned for 2015? To efficiently communicate to customers, BBTS will begin holding regular (continued on next page...)

Butler Business & Technology continued...

webinars to introduce its products and services, and how “the cloud” provides the tools to communicate and collaborate in today's world, while keeping your data and email, secure and private.



Computer “eye” from 2001 Space Odyssey (HAL the computer).

Butler Business & Technology Solutions

1810 Grove Street

Eldorado, IL 62930

618-294-1440

Butlertechnology.bz

Lighted Yard Contest Winner Announced

The Carmi Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that the Jeff and Amy Buttry family on Valter Dive have been selected as the recipients of the 2014 Lighted Home Award. The winners received \$50 in Carmi Dollars and will be displaying the Yard of the Month sign through the remainder of the holiday season.

“I would like to thank the residents of Wabash Christian Retirement Center for judging this contest,” noted Chamber Director Holly Healy.

The Lighted Yard Contest was brought to you in part by Ha-

ley Production Company, Eastern Services, Carmi Lions Club, Banterra Bank, Carmi Kiwanis Club and Southeastern Illinois College. It's a White County Christmas is produced by the Carmi Chamber of Commerce and brought to you in part by Geo. N. Mitchell Drilling and Brown's Fertilizer and Chemical.



From the Desk of the Executive Director...



Holly Healy
Executive
Director

It's a new year and Christmas is behind us. I hope each of you had an enjoyable holiday season.

While Christmas is over, I still have several people to thank for their help with It's a White County Christmas.

Emmanuel Church once again hosted their annual cookie sale. Thank you for allowing us to include it on the schedule.

First Christian Church and Bethlehem Mayor Erica Zieren allowed us to include Bethlehem Revisited on our schedule and we thank them.

To the American Legion Auxiliary for once again hosting a delicious breakfast with Santa, which was enjoyed by so many children, thank you.

To the Friends of the Library for hosting a Christmas story hour, thank you. The children in attendance really enjoyed this event!

Kendra Carter put an enormous amount of time into two craft shows. She also makes sure that the local community and

charities benefit from these events. Kendra, thank you for all your hard work.

Todd Atteberry of Greenman Design Studio, generously donated his time to take photos of children with Santa, thank you. Thank you for also for your design work on the White County Christmas website, it was beautiful.

To Kelly Company, who graciously donated new linoleum for Santa's house, thank you. It really helped improve the house and children's visits to Santa.

To Santa and his elf, Joey, thank you for taking time to visit Carmi and make so many children happy during the Christmas season. I know this takes away several hours from Mrs. Clause and the North Pole and your work does not go unnoticed.

The residents of Wabash Christian Retirement Center, along with the help of Susan Renshaw, graciously judged the lighted home contest. Thank you for helping with this event!

It's a White County Christmas would not be possible without the many individuals who both organize and participate in a number of events. If you helped in any way at all, or if I have accidentally left you out, thank you.

It's a White County Christmas is also not possible without our many sponsors, the Chamber Board of Directors and the Mayor and City Employees. Once again, thank you for your efforts.

I hope you will join me in looking forward to another exciting and busy year at the Chamber of Commerce. Our door is always open and I look forward to continuing to work with our membership in 2015.

From my family to yours, we wish you many blessings in the new year.

-Holly



Business After Hours at The Guardian Center



Thank you to The Guardian Center for hosting Business After Hours in December! A great time was had by all in attendance! Tours of the beautiful new facility were also provided.

Ribbon Cutting for The Guardian Center



The Carmi Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting on December 17 for The Guardian Center's new location at 1124 Oak Street in Carmi. "The Guardian Center has a beautiful new facility. They are an asset to the community and we are pleased to help them celebrate their new location," noted Chamber Director Holly Healy.

Welcome New Members...

Shelter Insurance

Kati Sturgal
1002 Oak Street
Carmi, IL 62821
618-382-8930

Weber's Auto Repair Center

415 5th Street
Carmi, IL 62821
618-384-3410

This could be YOU!

Why not join the Chamber today?

Call 382-7606 for
more information!

Hosts needed for Business After Hours

Hosts are needed for Business After Hours during 2015. At press time, all months except February are available.

Businesses After Hours may be hosted at your business or location of your choosing. Refreshments, while always enjoyed, are optional.

Business After Hours provides the opportunity for your to showcase your business to the Chamber and community. Typically,

they are held from 5:30–7pm on the second Thursday of each month.

Businesses may choose to host individually or join together to host Business After Hours.

If you would like to reserve a date, or for more information, please contact the Chamber office at 382-7606.

Save the date!

Carmi Chamber of Commerce Radio Auction

Graciously hosted by

WROY/WRUL

March 29, 2015

10 am— 1pm

Your Continued Membership Appreciated

Once again this January, annual Chamber of Commerce dues statements will be mailed. Included with your membership statement will be an information sheet we ask you to fill out as well as information about the Member to Member Discount Program we plan to continue in 2015. Your continued membership in the Chamber is certainly appreciated.

Your membership provides you the opportunity to participate in our newsletter and weekly e-blast free of charge, a service some chambers charge their members in addition to their annual dues.

It also provides access to our Member to Member Discount program and listings in our membership directory. The Chamber is often the

first call someone makes when searching for a particular business or service.

We have had many businesses join the Chamber over the past year. If you are not a member, your membership would be welcome. Please call the Chamber office at 382-7606 for more information.

New Mileage Rates Available; Business Rates to Rise in 2015

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2015 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2015, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car, van, pickup or panel truck will be:

- 57.5 cents per mile for business miles driven, up from 56 cents in 2014
- 23 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, down half a cent from 2014
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The standard mileage rate for business is based on an

annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile, including depreciation, insurance, repairs, tires, maintenance, gas and oil. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs, such as gas and oil. The charitable rate is set by law.

Taxpayers always have the option of claiming deductions based on the actual costs of using a vehicle rather than the standard mileage rates.

A taxpayer may not use the business standard mileage rate for a vehicle after claiming accelerated depreciation, including the Section 179 expense deduction, on that vehicle. Likewise, the standard rate is not available to fleet owners (more than

four vehicles used simultaneously). Details on these and other special rules are in [Revenue Procedure 2010-51](#), the instructions to [Form 1040](#) and various online IRS publications including [Publication 17](#), Your Federal Income Tax.

Besides the standard mileage rates, [Notice 2014-79](#), posted today on IRS.gov, also includes the basis reduction amounts for those choosing the business standard mileage rate, as well as the maximum standard automobile cost that may be used in computing an allowance under a fixed and variable rate plan.

Healthy Cooking 101

Learn to cook healthy, quickly and smart, and taste yummy food while you're learning. Get up to 10 new recipes and learn how to transform those into even more healthy dishes, and have fun in the process!

Each class includes cooking demo and tasting dishes information/education session, time for questions & answers

Starts Tuesday, January 27
6 pm - 7 pm

Enfield First Christian Church Basement

Six classes, every other Tuesday through March 31
Total cost \$150

Save \$25 on registration

When you reserve your spot before January 1. Hurry! Space is limited

Some of the topics we will discuss is:

- How to be an informed consumer (reading food labels)
 - 30 minute meals
 - Slow cooker/freezer meal options
- Healthier alternatives and food myths



Make Healthy Happen

Holistic • Prevention • Wellness

Call (618) 384-8966 to register or email
makehealthyhappen@gmail.com

Current Member to Member Discounts

Logo Graphics

20% off all advertising/ promotional products

Old National Investments- Brad Braden

Free Financial Review

Old National Bank- Debbie Conner-Hoskins

.25% off consumer loans with auto pay from ONB deposit account (for qualified loans)

Reppert's Office Supply

Free ream of copy paper with any in-store purchase of \$35 or more

10% discount on all greeting cards

Middle Sisters'

10% off entire purchase

Taylor Eye Care

10% off of non-prescription sunglasses (not valid with any other discount)

Yesterday's Drive In

\$1.00 off any sandwich basket

HLS Health & Wellness

10% off any Biofreeze product

Brown's Fertilizer & Chemical, LLC

Free soil test and analysis of soil sample results for up to ten samples

Dave Matheny- State Farm

Free Insurance and Financial Review

Do or Dye Salon

\$5.00 off any salon service

Carmi Family Dental

FREE New Patient Dr. Exam with Cleaning and Digital X-Rays at regular price

Merle Norman Cosmetics & Boutique

10% discount off purchase of regular priced merchandise (cosmetics excluded)

Carmi Huck's Convenience Store

\$2.00 off any large Godfathers Specialty Pizza

\$0.03 off per gallon of gas

H.D. Bean Jewelers

10% off everything but repairs

Make Healthy Happen

10% discount on purchases over \$50 (produce excluded)

James Cook- State Farm

Free State Farm Atlas

Carmi Eye Care

10% off a complete pair of glasses

The Courtyard

10% off a \$75 purchase or more

TCC Verizon

15% Discount on Accessories

People's National Bank

25% off a safe deposit box

Joyner Therapy Service

Free ASTYM consultation

Inner Earth Technologies

\$250 off any 1st time inspection and (as always) free estimates

Central Bark Dog Grooming

\$10 off a groom or \$5 off a bath

Wabash Christian Therapy and Medical Clinic

Biodex Screenings

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2015

January 2– 2015 Membership Invoices Mailed

January 8– Chamber Board of Directors Meeting

January 22– Ribbon Cutting for Kati Sturgal, Shelter Insurance– 10 am

February 4– February Newsletter Deadline

Mark you calendars for these scheduled 2015 Chamber events!

March 29– Radio Auction

October 5– Annual Dinner



225 East Main Street

Carmi IL 62821

Phone:

618-382-7606

Email:

chamber@cityofcarmi.com

Website:

www.cityofcarmi.com

2014-2015 Chamber Officers

Debbie Hoskins

President

Andy Acord

Vice President

Caleb Hughes

Secretary

Toby Brown

Treasurer

Clint Taylor

Past President

Holly Healy

Executive Director

2014 - 2015 Board of Directors

Dave Healy	2012-2015
James Cook	2012-2015
Andy Gee	2012-2015
Michelle Winters.....	2014-2015
Caleb Hughes.....	2013-2016
Kara Kessler	2013-2016
Megan Goff	2013-2016
Kendall Dale	2013-2016
Whitney Barbre.....	2014-2017
Cody Gottman	2014-2017
Nikki Roser.....	2014-2017
Heather Smith.....	2014-2017
Sandra Irvine.....	Ex-Officio
Dr. Jonah Rice.....	Ex-Officio
Mayor Jeff Pollard	Ex-Officio