



Hello Chamber Friends,

There will be no Chamber meeting in December...Happy Holidays!

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

🎄 Merry Christmas, and we wish everyone a Happy New Year and all the best in 2026! 🎄

Ongoing Event – Queen of Hearts

Don't forget the Queen of Hearts every Thursday evening at the 50 'n 4 Event Space from 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Upcoming December & January Events

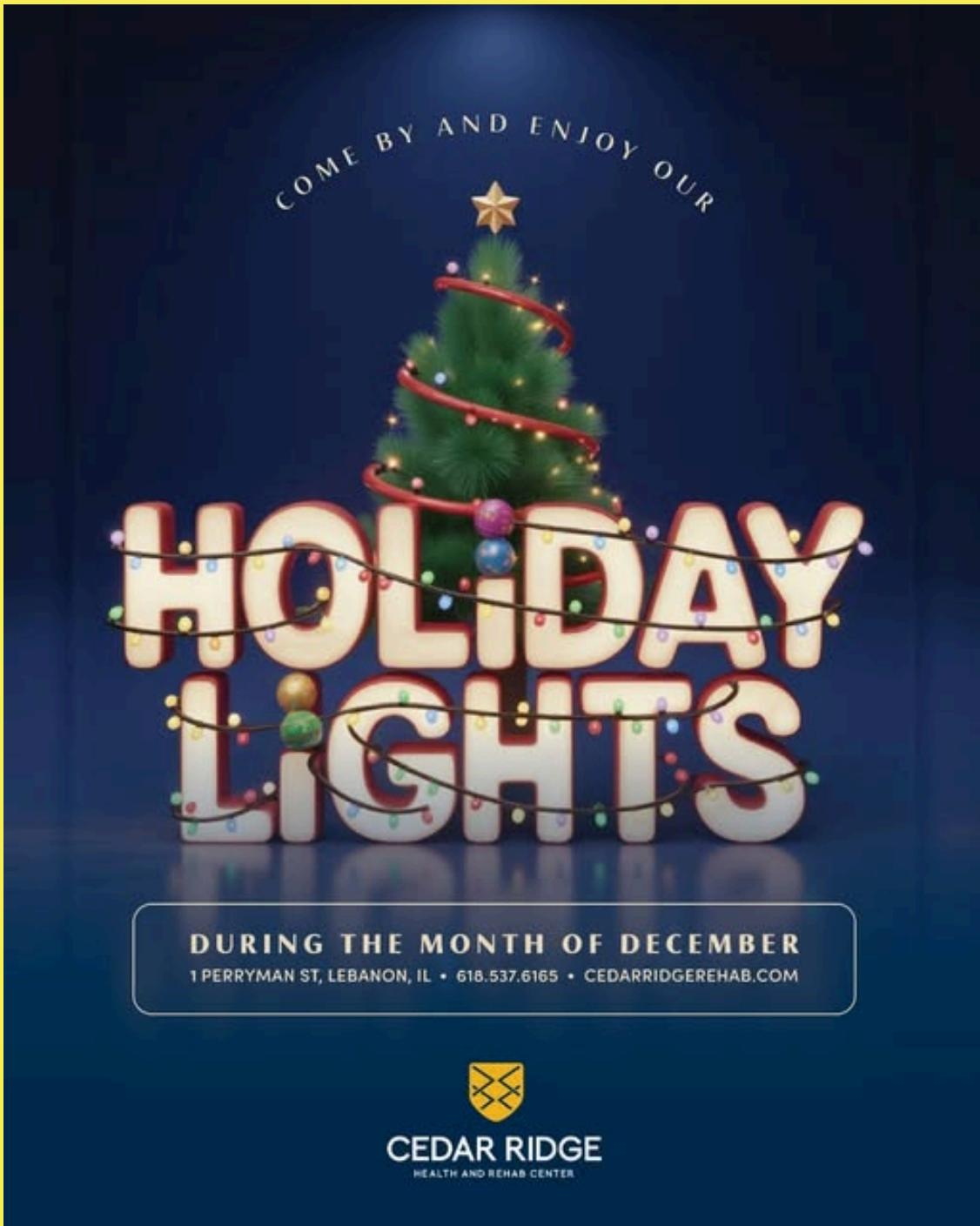
- Dec 20 – Christmas on the Brick Street
- Now thru Dec 31st - Lebanon's Winter Wonderland at Horner Park!
- Now thru Dec 31st - Cedar Ridge Health & Rehab Christmas Light Extravaganza!
- Jan 24 - Lebanon Fire Department Trivia Night (see flyer)

Share Your Events & Spotlights

Do you have an upcoming event for your business or organization? Please send event flyers and marquee requests to Rebeca Gabel at lebanonchambermarquee@gmail.com.

Would you like to have your business or non-profit featured in the next Chamber Spotlight? Contact Lori Henrichs at lorihenrichs@msn.com to be included in an upcoming newsletter!

(SCROLL DOWN FOR UPCOMING EVENTS & FLYERS)



Cedar Ridge Health and Rehab Center Brightens the Holiday With Free Lights Display

Every holiday season, Cedar Ridge Health and Rehab Center invites community members to drive through its sparkling Christmas light extravaganza – and this year, the lights will be brighter than ever.

On display through Dec. 31 – from dusk until 7 p.m., at the facility campus at 1 Perryman St. in Lebanon – the drive-through Light Fest will delight visitors with thousands of festive lights and holiday decorations.

"This is always a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season," said Kenya O'Neal, CEO/administrator of Cedar Ridge Health and Rehab Center. "The look of joy on the faces of our guests as they drive through and look at the lights and decorations, truly enhances the holiday for us all."

Cedar Ridge Health and Rehab Center is a 114-bed skilled nursing facility in Lebanon, Ill., providing long-term care, short-term care, rehabilitation, occupational therapy, physical therapy, rehab-to-home, speech therapy, hospice care and respite care. The facility is hiring: www.cedarridgerehab.com/careers.

The center is currently accepting new admissions for short-term rehabilitation and long-term care. For further information, call 618-537-6165 or visit the Cedar Ridge Health and Rehab Center website at www.cedarridgerehab.com

Article by Tara Hasenstab, Cedar Ridge Director of Business Development

Lebanon's Winter Wonderland

A Holiday Light Display

NOV 21 – DEC 31, 2025

5-9 PM SUN-THU, 5-10 PM FRI- SAT



HORNER PARK – 11113 WIDICUS ROAD, LEBANON, IL

WEATHER PERMITTING (SEE WEBSITE)



www.Lebanonwinterwonderland.org

Visit Lebanon's Winter Wonderland Facebook Page!

Lions Christmas Tree Lot

Uptown Lebanon at the Square



Fresh Cut Trees for Sale

5-8 Foot Scotch Pine, White Pine,
Balsam Fir & Douglas Fir \$60-\$120

Shop Anytime 24/7

Select your Tree, Remove
Price Tag, and Insert in
Mail slot at Wilken
Insurance with your
Payment !

OR...

Lions Members will be in
the Tree Hut on the Square

Fridays 5pm-8pm
Saturdays 9am-6pm
Sundays Noon-3pm

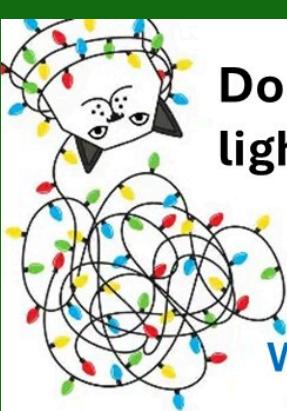
Cash, Check
or Venmo

Lot Open at 10am
Thanksgiving
November 27th
until Christmas
(or sold out)

*Merry
Christmas!*



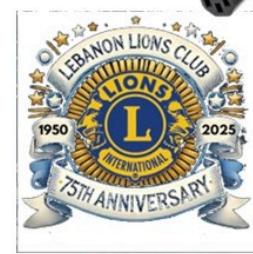
Proceeds will be used for Community, Youth, and Vision & Hearing Projects



Do you have unwanted Christmas lights or ANY electrical cords ??

RECYCLE them!

When, you ask?
Nov 15 thru Jan 15



Collection tub locations:

- **Lebanon Ace Hardware**
- **Lebanon Lions Christmas Tree Lot at the Square**

Call 618-806-1954 for questions or large pick-up!



Sponsored by Lebanon Lions Club
Proceeds benefit Lions of Illinois Foundation Sight & Sound Fund



Election Results for 2026 Chamber Officers

On November 20, the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce held an election for the 2026 officer positions. Below are the results and a little information about each elected board member:

President – Tiffany Suydam was unanimously re-elected and has served as President for the past 3 years. Tiffany has a sparkling personality and makes it fun to be a part of the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce. Thanks, Tiffany, for all you do and will continue to do in the upcoming year.

Employment/Business/Organization:

- First Federal Savings Bank of Mascoutah, IL (Lebanon Branch) since 2017, and Branch Manager since October 2020

Community Involvement/Hobbies/Interests:

- Lebanon Fall Festival Committee member in 2025 & 2026
- Supports the Lebanon Emerald Mound Fire Department as a member of the Friends of Lebanon Fire Department and is the wife of Gregg Suydam at the

Fire Department

- Supporter of the Lebanon School District and its athletic program

Vice President – Rebeca Gabel will serve as our new Chamber Vice President for 2026. She has been an active Chamber member since 2016 and has previously served as President, Secretary, and Member-at-Large. She is also the Chamber Website and Facebook administrator, maintains the Chamber marquee, and serves as co-editor of the Chamber newsletter. Thanks, Rebeca, for keeping us up to date on technology and for making our town's businesses and organizations more visible.

Employment/Business/Organization:

- Owner of Paisley Place, an event space for individual and group facial events featuring Korean skincare, personal care products, health supplements, and daily living items. Visit her website at <https://sites.google.com/view/paisley-place>

Community Involvement/Hobbies/Interests:

- Co-chair of Lebanon Fall Festival Committee
- Member of the Lebanon Victorian Holiday Committee
- Enjoys movies, reading, and road trips to museums and historic attractions
- Enjoys promoting Lebanon's businesses and nonprofit organizations

Secretary – Lori Henrichs was a Member-at-Large in 2025 and is now our new Secretary. Lori loves getting to know our Chamber members and writing about their accomplishments. She is also ready for a new challenge with the Secretary position.

Employment/Business/Organization:

- Retired from Federal Service in 2024 from Scott Air Force Base, where she worked for the Air Force Audit Agency for 22 years.

Community Involvement/Hobbies/Interests:

- Co-chairs Lebanon Fall Festival Committee with Rebeca Gabel
- Co-editor of the monthly Chamber newsletter with Rebeca Gabel
- Active member of Emerald Mound Grange and Garden Club of Lebanon

Treasurer – Carrie Christ was re-elected to the Chamber Treasurer position, where she has served for several years. Carrie always gives 100 percent to what she does. Her motto is doing what she can to make Lebanon a better place to live.

Employment/Business/Organization:

- Has worked for Christ Bros. Asphalt, Inc. since 1984

Community Involvement/Hobbies/Interests:

- On the committee to build the Visitor's Center and continues to maintain it
- Instrumental in getting Visitor Center repairs done – made everyone aware of how much money was needed to pay for repairs so that the Chamber could request donations from its members
- Volunteers with various events, including Fall Festival and Victorian Holiday

Member-at-Large – Brenda Pehle has been Chamber Secretary since 2018. She has been a wonderful secretary but decided it was time to make a change and become one of the four Members-at-Large. Thanks, Brenda, for all

you've done for the Chamber as Secretary. We know you will continue to do a great job as a Member-at-Large!

Employment/Business/Organization:

- Came to Lebanon in 1975 as a McKendree student and has had several employment and service roles in the 50 years since.
- Currently works for the Meredith Funeral Home in Lebanon as a continuing care coordinator.

Community Involvement/Hobbies/Interests:

- Serves as recorder for the Garden Club of Lebanon, providing minutes for the meetings to the members
- As Chamber Secretary, provided copies of meeting reports and agenda to members; kept historical Chamber records such as meeting minutes and Constitution and By-laws; sent out annual member applications for renewals; kept up the membership roster, and much more!

Member-at-Large – Susie Whinnery Stevenson will serve as a Member-at-Large in 2026 for a third year. She is a long-time resident of Lebanon, growing up here from the mid-1960s to the late 1980s. After moving to St. Louis for a while for work, Susie and her husband, Patrick, moved back to Lebanon in 2020 and refurbished her mom, Lillian's, house after her passing in 2019.

Employment/Business/Organization:

- Serves as Secretary and board member of First United Methodist Church
- Treasurer of the Garden Club of Lebanon
- Has represented Lebanon Lions Club at Chamber Meetings since 2021

Community Activities/Hobbies/Interests:

- Volunteer at Garden Club for the following activities: May Market plant sales, Fall Festival Cider Sales, weeding at Mini Park, Mermaid Inn, and College Hill Cemetery
- Volunteer at Lebanon Lions Club for the following activities: worked many barbecues, other fundraisers, and assisted in their 75 services in 2025, which ended as a Winter Wonderland park entrance greeter
- Plays clarinet in the Belleville Community Band, a volunteer band that performs for Senior Living centers and public German Fests
- Hosted the Belleville Community Band concert at the Lebanon First United Methodist Church in June 2024
- Has played in several community bands in Missouri and a college orchestra over the decades, always thanking Russel Rigdon, encouraging her to play from 5th grade!

Member-at-Large – Cheri Wright has been elected as a Member-at-Large. She brings many years of experience with her to the Chamber Board.

Employment/Business/Organization:

- Moved to Lebanon about 17 years ago and took over the Fall Festival planning until 3 years ago
- Arranged for the Clydesdale to be part of Fall Festival in 2024, 2025, and 2026
- Held two political offices in Lebanon: Ward 3 Alderman from 5/1/2013 – 5/1/2021 and Mayor from 5/1/2021 – 5/1/2025

Community Involvement/Hobbies/Interests:

- Has assisted in most of the events in Lebanon. Advised and assisted the 2025 Fall Festival Committee since the committee members were all new to working on the Fall Festival.
- Belongs to the Lebanon Woman's Club and enjoys doing crafts.

Member-at-Large – Holly Lovell was re-elected as a Member-at-Large. She is very active with the Chamber of Commerce and the Lebanon Merchants Association.

Employment/Business/Organization:

- Has owned Tiadaghton House with her husband since 2013, where they sell antiques and art from 85 local artists
- Has served in the Lebanon Merchants Association during her 12 years in business – served as president and secretary at the same time for 5 years

Community Involvement/Hobbies/Interests:

- Organized the Lebanon May Market for 10 years
- On the Victorian Holiday Sponsorship Committee for the last 3 years and the Secretary for 2 years

Article by Lori Henrichs



Lebanon Chamber 2025 Year in Review

Hard to believe it's almost the end of 2025! We thought it might be fun to look back at the changes and accomplishments this year that were made by the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce and our members.

Lebanon Queen of Hearts

Back in the Spring, when the Chamber was in charge of the Queen of Hearts, the final pot was \$21,150! Although the Chamber did a great job with the Queen of Hearts, they stepped aside to allow the Lebanon Improvement Association to take over and use it as a fundraiser for a new Veterans' Memorial in Lebanon.



Chamber Newsletter Changes

In March 2025, we added Chamber Spotlight articles to the monthly Chamber newsletter. Each month (except for this one) we highlight one business and one non-profit that belong to the Chamber of Commerce. Those that we have written about so far have been happy with the articles. It's a great way to get the word out about their business or organization and it comes free with a Chamber membership! If you would like your business or non-profit to be featured in a Chamber Spotlight article, please send an email to Lori Henrichs at lorihenrichs@msn.com.

Chamber Marquee

Another good thing that happened in early 2025 was the new marquee downtown. It was purchased late in 2024 and was up and running in early 2025. A Chamber membership includes 2 weeks of free ads per year, plus a 50% member discount on additional ads. To request an ad on the Chamber Marquee, email Rebeca Gabel at lebanonchambermarquee@gmail.com.



Visitor Center Improvements

In 2025, the Visitor Center received several improvements and repairs to make it more welcoming for visitors. The one most noticeable to visitors was the flooring on the upstairs level. The wood floor looks beautiful now. Thanks to the City of Lebanon for their support and help in providing funds for half of the wood flooring expense through a Business Tax Grant. Also, we had an anonymous donation for the other half. Now that the Visitor Center is looking so

good, we would like to increase our hours of operation. Currently, we are only able to open the Visitor Center on Thursday - Saturday, due to a shortage of volunteers. Volunteer hours are available for 2-hour shifts. **Please consider volunteering** for two hours a week and call Marie Fero at 618-830-3781 or Email mfero60@gmail.com.



New Chamber Website

We were thrilled to source and launch a brand-new Lebanon Chamber of Commerce website for our members this year! Our previous website tools provided valuable automation for our member directory, calendar, and event scheduling; however, the operating costs had grown to nearly \$3,000 per year to cover hosting, security updates, and ongoing maintenance.

Thanks to the expertise and talent of Moonlight Computing LLC, the Chamber was able to transition to a modern, flexible website solution that preserves the functionality our members rely on—at a far more sustainable cost. For a one-time development fee of \$3,000, Moonlight Computing provisioned our new main website with expanded features and improved usability. Moving forward, the Chamber's annual cost will be just \$800, covering hosting, security updates, and maintenance.

Moonlight Computing LLC has been incredibly responsive, intuitive, and collaborative throughout the entire process. The result is a refreshed online presence that better serves our members, highlights our community, and allows the Chamber to reinvest more resources into local programs and marketing efforts. Be sure to visit our new website at www.lebanonil.us to check out the progress and features! No need to worry, we will be adding the 2026 calendar events at the beginning of the year.

New Website Features at a Glance

| Feature / Tab | What It Includes |
|-------------------------|---|
| About | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Spaces information • Links to past Chamber newsletters • Secure Chamber Member Portal to log in and update member information |
| Member Directory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printable Member Directory PDF • Search members by keyword, category, or name • Member Portal login access |
| Annual Events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-stop hub for Lebanon's signature events • May Market • Fall Festival • Lebanon Victorian Holiday |
| Calendar | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closest upcoming events featured prominently • Event details, flyers, and links displayed on listings • Members can submit events directly to the calendar |
| Join Us | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Membership Application • Downloadable printable Membership Application PDF • Online applications automatically populate the Member Directory |
| Contact | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General inquiries sent to chamber@lebanonil.us • Direct contact options via dropdown for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – President – Vice President – Secretary – Treasurer – Marquee Requests – Website Administrator – Newsletter Articles |

This website upgrade would not have been possible without the **generous support of our Chamber sponsors**—including local businesses, nonprofit organizations, and individual community members—who stepped forward to cover the startup costs.

To date, we have raised **\$2,450 toward our \$3,000 goal**, with only **\$550 remaining**. All website sponsors who donate \$200 or more are proudly featured at the bottom of our homepage with a 500 x 500 px ad, complete with a direct link to their business website or social media page.

✨ **We have room for just two more \$200 sponsors to reach our goal!** ✨
 For questions about the new website or to participate in the final sponsorship opportunity, please contact **Rebeca Gabel** at **618-610-2509** or email paisleyplace106@gmail.com.

Once we reach our final goal, we will feature all of our sponsors in the January 2026 newsletter and post on the Chamber Facebook Page!

- Article by Lori Henrichs and Rebeca Gabel



Lebanon Victorian Holiday 1st Annual Gingerbread House Competition Winners!

- Sponsored by the Lebanon Rotary Club

Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote! Here are this year's winners:

The People's Choice award went to Kim Bald for her beautiful two-story Victorian gingerbread house!



The Children's Choice award, 1st place, went to Girl Scout Troop #676 for their creative gingerbread camp site!



The Children's Choice award, 2nd place, went to Marshall, Gus, and Zuzu Wilhelm for their beautiful gingerbread manger scene!



The Business category award, 1st place, went to The Lantern for their fantastic Lantern model gingerbread house!



The Business category award, 2nd place, went to the Education Center for their creative gingerbread lighthouse!



We would like to thank the following businesses for hosting our Gingerbread House contest entries:

[The Lantern](#)
[Brickway Insurance](#)
[Granny's Loft Centric](#)

We hope this sweet new tradition grows bigger every year and look forward to seeing next year's entries!

-Article by Rebeca Gabel, photos by Kelly Wilhelm.

13TH ANNUAL FLFD TRIVIA NIGHT



**SATURDAY,
JAN. 24TH**

**DOORS OPEN @ 6PM
TRIVIA STARTS @ 7PM
LEBANON FIREHOUSE**

**\$120 PER TABLE-MAX OF 8 PER TABLE
\$5 MULLIGANS WITH 16 CANNED GOODS
\$10 MULLIGANS WITH NO CANNED GOODS**

**SILENT AUCTION~50/50~HEADS OR TAILS
BEST DRESS/TABLE WESTERN THEME CONTEST**

**CONTACT NATALIE TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE
618-223-9574**

**Bring Your Own Snacks & Non-Alcoholic Beverages
Alcohol available for purchase.**

Follow Our Facebook Event Page for updates!



Looking for a Volunteer Opportunity in Lebanon?

The Lebanon Visitors' Center is open to the public and provides a warm welcome and clean public restrooms for visitors to Lebanon and the brick street businesses.

Do you have spare time once a week to volunteer? It is a peaceful and quiet place to read, do homework, and greet occasional visitors to Lebanon. We need volunteers who can fill 2-hour shifts once a week to welcome visitors, answer the phone, and direct them to our businesses and attractions in Lebanon. Currently, the Visitors Center is open only on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and for special events.

For more information about volunteering at the Visitors' Center, call Marie Fero at 618-830-3781 or Email mfero60@gmail.com.

618-537-8420

Join the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Today!

Online Chamber Member Application

[Lebanon Chamber of
Commerce Website](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Lebanon
Attractions](#)

[Join Us](#)

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