

This year marks the 56<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Breese Chamber of Commerce, or formally the Breese Business and Professional Association. Our membership is approximately 90 members strong and has products and services covering a wide variety of offerings including consumer products, financial services, restaurants and a variety of other retail offerings.

In 1953, our organization was established to provide a number of services for both the membership and the community. The Chamber and its members have donated both time and money for the betterment of Breese and the surrounding communities. Since the Bylaws were written quality education, quality healthcare and adequate infrastructure have been longstanding goals of the Organization.

In this week's Journal we are highlighting Southern Bus and Mobility as our first Chamber Spotlight. The Chamber Spotlight will be a monthly article about a Chamber member highlighting the company's history, employees and the products and services the company provides. We hope the community not only finds this information to be interesting reading, but also informs the community about which products and services can be found locally.

Our future and the future of many projects in the area require a robust local economy. So the next time you need a car, light bulb, loan, flooring or anything else imaginable please consider supporting your local businesses, so our local businesses can continue to support our little leagues, schools, hospitals and other civic endeavors.

Brandon J. Wade

Chamber – President

In case you have ever wondered where your sales tax dollars go when you buy items in Breese, here is the breakdown:

- 5% goes to the state of Illinois
- 1% goes to the City of Breese
- .25% goes to Clinton County