

Calendar of Events

July 3, 2024

July 2024 Membership Luncheon

LaGalerie

803 Benton Public Square

Benton, IL 62812

11:30 AM - 01:00 PM CST

The Benton/West City Area Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to our Monthly Membership Luncheon on Wednesday July 3rd, 2024 at LaGalerie located on the Benton Square. Program starts at 11:30 am - 1:00pm. (food service begins as 11:45 am).

Location

Twin Oaks

13448 Melody Lane

Benton, IL

LUNCH PROVIDED BY POP'S BBQ

Choice of

Grilled Chicken or Pork BBQ Sandwich

Cole Slaw

Baked Beans

Desert

DRINKS

Tea, Water

EVENT AGENDA:

Welcome from Chamber Leadership

A few words from our Sponsor

Luncheon Program

Quick update from the Chamber Executive Director

Chamber Change 50/50 Drawing: Proceeds will go to the Building Fund so the Chamber of Commerce can work toward having a home of our own.

PROGRAM: THE STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

MEET THE SPEAKER: MAYOR LEE MESSERSMITH

Lee is a native of Benton who graduated Benton Consolidated High School in 1990, SIU-C in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science in Speech Communications and a Master's Degree in Christian Education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort

Worth, TX 1998.

He led in local churches in Jackson, Mississippi and Naperville, Illinois in various capacities, as well as starting and managing Messersmith Construction, Inc.

Lee's leadership highlights include being Operational Director for Community Christian Church in Naperville. During this time he became a published writer for Outreach Magazine.

In 2010, Lee and his family returned to Benton. During the last nine years he managed a remodeling business while serving in various community rolls such as the Benton Grade School PTO. In 2014, Lee started and became president of the Rend Lake Bike Club. Then in 2015, he opened Cycle1 Cycling Studio. In 2018, Cycle1 was voted as Benton/West City Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year.

In August 2018, Lee began leading as facilitator for the inaugural year of the Franklin County EDGE Program. The program brings together students from all Franklin County school districts for a year-long programmatic experience of entrepreneurial development that earns dual credit with Rend Lake College.

Lee served as Streets and Improvements Commissioner for the City of Benton from May of 2019 through April of 2023. Lee's current term as Mayor will run from May of 2023 through April of 2027.

As Mayor of Benton Lee has been involved in numerous community events that help bring revenue to the area. He is at as many school functions as he can fit into his schedule and often travels to support the various sporting events. He works with the Chamber of Commerce as well as Tourism, Rotary, EDC and the local volunteer groups to collaborate on different ways to support and grow our community. He truly has a heart for service and for our community.

Housekeeping Note:

If your plans change and you can't attend, please call the office by Friday May 31st. We encourage you to send a co-worker to represent your organization and network, otherwise you will be billed for your lunch. (Our catering numbers are calculated , finalized and paid according to event registration.)

July 3, 2024

Complimentary Busciots & Gravy

Helia Healthcare

1310 Mark Franklin Dr

Benton, IL 62812

07:00 AM - 09:00 AM CST

July 13, 2024
- July 14, 2024

Concealed Carry Class

Extreme Exigency and The Home of The Armed Barbers and Barber College
9911 River Bend Road
Benton, IL 62812

08:00 AM - 05:00 PM CST

Stacy Minor, 618-629-3422 Ext 2 o

extremeexigency@gmail.com

This course will provide an understanding for the law-abiding citizen's right to self-defense. The participants will develop skills and attitudes essential for the safe and effective use of a handgun for the protection of self and family. Further, coverage will be provided on mental awareness, how to avoid victimization, and mindset development for use of a firearm when faced with a life threatening encounter. This course will review basic gun safety rules for guns in the home, travel and concealed carry. Also covered will be the responsibility of firearm ownership laws, how to legally travel with a firearm and the justified use of lethal force. Students will be required to participate in classroom and firearms range activities and demonstrate basic live-fire handgun proficiency.

An Illinois Firearms Owners ID card is recommended, but not required. This course assumes participant already has a basic understanding of firearms, firearm's safety and possesses basic firearm's use skill sets. However, even very novice shooters are more than welcome and even encouraged to attend. (No Firearms or ammunition allowed in the classroom)

This course is available to and encouraged for private/professional groups of 15 or more. Course facilitator would provide classroom facility suitable for the number of participants. Contact us for more information and the training team availability and dates.

Course meets all of the Illinois Concealed Carry Curriculum Mandates.

July 16, 2024

Concealed Carry Class

Extreme Exigency and The Home of The Armed Barbers and Barber College
9911 River Bend Road
Benton, IL 62812

06:00 PM - 09:00 PM CST

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This is the 3-hour Concealed Carry Renewal Class for Illinois Concealed Carry permit holders. Per Illinois Concealed Carry Act Mandate, the class will consist of reviewing all laws associated with Illinois Concealed Carry followed up with a live fire range qualification.

This is an approved curriculum by the Illinois State Police and this course meets the renewal mandates.

Registration includes: Range fees, training firearms rental, ammunition, safety glasses and hearing protection

July 18, 2024

Benton West City Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting

Franklin County Ford Garage Museum
211 North Main Street, PO Box 574
Benton, IL 62812

08:30 AM - 09:30 AM CST

Lennie Shelton, 6184382121

bentonwcchamber@gmail.com

August 3, 2024
- August 4, 2024

Concealed Carry Class
Extreme Exigency and The Home of The Armed Barbers and Barber College
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Benton, IL 62812

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August 6, 2024

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Helia Healthcare
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Benton, IL 62812

07:00 AM - 09:00 AM CST

August 13, 2024

Concealed Carry Class
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August 15, 2024

Benton West City Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
Franklin County Ford Garage Museum
211 North Main Street, PO Box 574
Benton, IL 62812
08:30 AM - 09:30 AM CST
Lennie Shelton, 6184382121
bentonwcchamber@gmail.com

September 4, 2024

Complimentary Busciots & Gravy
Helia Healthcare
1310 Mark Franklin Dr
Benton, IL 62812
07:00 AM - 09:00 AM CST

September 7, 2024
- September 8, 2024

Concealed Carry Class
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September 12, 2024

Concealed Carry Class

Extreme Exigency and The Home of The Armed Barbers and Barber College

9911 River Bend Road

Benton, IL 62812

06:00 PM - 09:00 PM CST

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October 2, 2024

Complimentary Busciots & Gravy

Helia Healthcare

1310 Mark Franklin Dr

Benton, IL 62812

07:00 AM - 09:00 AM CST

October 5, 2024

- October 6, 2024

Concealed Carry Class

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October 8, 2024

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November 2, 2024

- November 3, 2024

Concealed Carry Class

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Benton, IL 62812

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November 7, 2024

Concealed Carry Class

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December 7, 2024

- December 8, 2024

Concealed Carry Class

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