



of the rockford business community

2026 Editorial Calendar

Month/Deadline	Editorial Theme	GRCC Events
January 12/10/2025	Finances/Legal, Transfer of Wealth, Leadership Transition	Coffee at the Chamber
February 01/10/2026	Public Safety, Physical and Cyber Security	Crime Fighting/Public Safety event
March 02/05/2026	Marketing and Branding	Leadership Rockford, Celebration of Leadership
April 03/05/2026	The MATH issue (mathematics in business)	Rockford Mayor's Address, Spring Networking
May 04/05/2026	The Great Outdoors (sports, recreation, nature, outdoor occupations)	GRCC Annual Golf Outing
June 05/05/2026	Makers and Movers (manufacturing, logistics, warehousing, distribution)	Economic Summit, Networking, 40 Over 40 Reception
July 06/10/2026	Leadership	Founders Day, Meet the New RPS Superintendent
August 07/10/2026	Celebrating the 815	GRCC Annual Dinner
September 08/10/2026	Workforce and Talent	Networking, Leadership Rockford Kickoff
October 09/10/2026	Innovation and Technology	Midwest Aerospace Conference (MAC2026)
November 10/10/2026	Small Business and Partnerships	Pow(H)er Conference
December 11/10/2026	The Business of Nonprofits	No events scheduled due to holidays.

Calendar subject to change. Contact editor@rockfordchamber.com to reserve article space in an upcoming issue.

What you need to know about writing an article for the VOICE

Submitting an article for the VOICE is like participating in an expert panel—it's your chance to share real-world experiences (good and bad), give advice, highlight best practices, and offer business insights that your fellow Chamber members would find beneficial.

GUEST ARTICLE GUIDELINES

- **GRCC members** may submit two objective, thought leadership articles per year (550-650 words). Think TED Talk or LinkedIn feature.
- The focus of the article should not be about your organization, product, or service. However, you may cite experiences, programs, or partnerships as examples that support your topic.
- The best articles are written in the authentic voice of the author, not AI.
- If possible, include local examples, anecdotes, and/or quotes from people in our region.
- Articles can relate to the monthly editorial theme or be of general business interest.
- All submissions will be edited for style, tone, grammar, and length when necessary.
- Include a photo of the author and a brief bio (50-word max).
- Include a company or organizational bio (50-word max).
- Send articles as a Word doc to editor@rockfordchamber.com.
- Photos may be included for consideration. Please send as attached jpg or png files.
- **Deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month prior to publication.**
- Contact editor@rockfordchamber.com to reserve article space in an upcoming issue.

TIPS FOR AUTHORS

- Write in a professional but conversational voice.
- The VOICE follows AP style. If you know what that is, please use it. If not, just know that your story will be edited to comply with those style guidelines.
- First and foremost, the VOICE is a print newspaper. If you need to cite a source, please do so in the text of the article. Newspapers don't use footnotes, and hyperlinks don't work in print.
- You may submit previously published blog posts or articles produced by your corporate office. Please modify with local information if possible.

*To get a copy of the VOICE mailed to your business or home,
email your information to info@rockfordchamber.com.*

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS AND BUSINESS BRIEFS

GRCC members may send announcements and press releases to editor@rockfordchamber.com.

- New hires, retirements, promotions (may include a headshot).
- Business and individual awards and recognition.
- Announcements may be included in the VOICE newspaper and/or the VOICEnow e-newsletter.

ADVERTISING

For information about advertising opportunities or event sponsorships, contact **Matt Zarembski** at mzarembski@rockfordchamber.com or 815-997-6083; or **Kristin Muehlfelder** at kmuehlfelder@rockfordchamber.com or 815-316-4315.