



# 2026 Editorial Calendar

Issue	Editorial Theme	Article Deadline	Ad Placement & Art Deadline
January/February	<i>Finances/Legal, Transfer of Wealth, Leadership Transitions</i>	01/10/2026	01/16/2026
March	<i>Marketing and Branding</i>	02/10/2026	02/13/2026
April	<i>The MATH issue (mathematics in business)</i>	03/10/2026	03/13/2026
May	<i>The Great Outdoors (sports, recreation, nature, outdoor occupations)</i>	04/10/2026	04/17/2026
June	<i>Makers and Movers (manufacturing, logistics, warehousing, distribution)</i>	05/10/2026	05/15/2026
July	<i>Leadership</i>	06/10/2026	06/19/2026
August	<i>Celebrating the 815</i>	07/10/2026	07/17/2026
September	<i>Workforce and Talent</i>	08/10/2026	08/21/2026
October	<i>Innovation and Technology</i>	09/10/2026	09/18/2026
November	<i>Small Business and Partnerships</i>	10/10/2026	10/16/2026
December	<i>The Business of Nonprofits</i>	11/10/2026	11/13/2026

Calendar subject to change.

Contact [editor@rockfordchamber.com](mailto:editor@rockfordchamber.com) to reserve article space in an upcoming issue.

Contact Mike Lacny at [mlacny@rockfordchamber.com](mailto:mlacny@rockfordchamber.com) or 815-494-6476;

or Kristin Muehlfelder at [kmuehlfelder@rockfordchamber.com](mailto:kmuehlfelder@rockfordchamber.com) or 815-316-4315 for advertising inquiries.



**The VOICE** is the monthly newspaper of the Greater Rockford Chamber of Commerce and the region's only print and digital publication dedicated to business news and information.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:info@rockfordchamber.com).*

### MEMBERS IN THE NEWS AND BUSINESS BRIEFS

GRCC members may send announcements and press releases to [editor@rockfordchamber.com](mailto: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 **Mike Lacny** at [mlacny@rockfordchamber.com](mailto:mlacny@rockfordchamber.com) or 815-494-6476; or **Kristin Muehlfelder** at [kmuehlfelder@rockfordchamber.com](mailto:kmuehlfelder@rockfordchamber.com) or 815-316-4315.