



## Chamber OnLine – December ‘14

*News from the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce*

### **Message from the President**

With Thanksgiving behind us and the year winding down, it's a good time to thank some of the people who have helped make our Chamber a successful organization.

Mark Schoell, CEO of United Memorial Medical Center, will be stepping down from our Board of Directors after serving the maximum two terms on the board. Mark was Chairman of the Board in 2013 and had the unenviable task of heading up the search committee to replace an outstanding Chamber President when Lynn Freeman retired. I will always be grateful to Mark and the entire board for having the faith to choose me to follow Lynn as Chamber President.

Not only will Mark be leaving our board but he is also retiring as CEO at UMMC. Under Mark's leadership, our local hospital has made huge strides in becoming an excellent modern health care facility that we all can rely on and be proud to have in our region. He was a key player in negotiating the merger with the Rochester General Hospital health care system that will benefit Genesee County for years to come. Mark will be missed not only at the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce but by our entire community as well.

Steve Pies, Vice President of Max Pies Furniture, served as Chairman of the Board in 2014 and has been a pleasure to work with. No matter what has been asked of Steve during this past year, he has always been available to help in any way that he can. He is a true believer in the Chamber's mission of creating an environment for business success that will enhance the quality of life for everyone in Genesee County. We are fortunate that Steve will continue on the board after his year as Chairman ends.

The entire Chamber Board of Directors deserves our thanks as well. This is a board that had the vision and courage to take on the revival of the annual Home Show and its commitment to the project led to a major win for the Chamber, for Home Show vendors, and for the entire community as a whole. It is sometimes overlooked that our board consists of volunteers who have their own businesses and organizations to oversee. Their unselfish willingness to serve on the Chamber Board of Directors is what helps makes our Chamber a success.

And finally I have to thank you, our members. Without our members we wouldn't have a Chamber of Commerce! With over 500 members pulling together, we have the strength in numbers to help promote a vibrant local economy. We couldn't do it without your commitment!

Sincerely,

*Tom Turnbull*  
*President*