facial expressions and allows the hearing impaired to read lips. “In those early days, everyone was learning what it was like to live in a masked environment. We quickly identified that while it’s difficult for everybody to wear a mask all day long, for folks suffering from hearing impairment, it’s an even bigger challenge,” Jim Baumbick, leader of Ford’s PPE manufacturing effort. Ford expects the masks to be available in the spring.

Feb. 11, 2021 | Through innovative solutions during these uncertain times, Illinois Chamber Member AT&T is helping healthcare organizations ensure those in need of the COVID-19 vaccine can receive it. AT&T is supporting the connections that enable companies to see in near real-time where the vaccines are in the distribution process.

Feb. 17, 2021 | Illinois Chamber member bp America announced their $500,000 donation to support victims in need from the extreme winter weather in Texas. “We remain committed to the communities where we live, work and connect with our customers. Working with the American Red Cross and other organizations, we will support these communities as quickly as possible,” said Dave Lawler, chairman and president of bp America.

Feb. 23, 2021 | Congratulations to Chamber member ADM for being named one of the #WorldsMostEthicalCompanies for the second year in a row!

Mar. 2, 2021 | Illinois Chamber member Salesforce announced their latest technology solution #VaccineCloud. It will provide the healthcare industry with vaccine management such as: scheduling, inventory management, and public health outreach.

Mar. 3, 2021 | Illinois Chamber member Amazon announced their new logistic facilities located in Valparaiso and Merrillville! The locations will host two of the five Amazon Logistics facilities opening this year, creating hundreds of full-time jobs.

Mar. 5, 2021 | Illinois Chamber member University of Illinois Urbana- Champagne’s SHIELD COVID-19 tests will be available statewide after the FDA emergency use approval! Over 1.5 million tests have been administered at campuses in Champaign-Urbana, Springfield and Chicago.

Mar. 15, 2021 | Congratulations to longtime Illinois Chamber member Tom Livingston with CSX for being interviewed by University of Illinois Springfield on his lifelong lobbying commitment to the state of Illinois.

Mar 16, 2021 | Illinois Chamber member Instacart kicked off a new COVID-19 Vaccine Support Stipend! Instacart announced more than 15,000 Instacart shoppers have taken advantage of this new program. Since the program began, they have also shipped more than 110,000 health and safety kits, bringing the total to 730,000.

Mar. 16, 2021 | Congratulations to Chamber member Peoria Production Shop for celebrating 80 years as a safe and respectful work environment for their employees!

Mar. 18, 2021 | Illinois Chamber member Google announced their investments in fueling Illinois’ economic recovery. We are happy to see #Google investing $25M+ for long-term growth in Chicago and creating 10K new jobs in the US in 2021. #GrowWithGoogle

Mar. 23, 2021 | Illinois Chamber Board Member, Dan Wagner penned an op ed with the Chicago Agent. With the Biden administration talking about closing tax loopholes, farmers, real estate owners,