

E-REP

MAY 2023

IMPACT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

BUSINESS |

POLICY |

COMMUNITY |

TALENT |

STRATEGY |

#looksgoodonyou

EVANSVILLE REGION SECURES
\$30 MILLION GRANT
TO CREATE EVANSVILLE
PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD

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www.evansvilleregion.com



INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS

At E-REP, our daily work is centered around the growth and success of our region through a regional strategic plan we call Talent EVV. As a business owner, one of the best ways you can support the growth of our region is by investing in the next generation of business leaders, the ones who can help ensure that our community remains a vibrant and prosperous place to live and work for generations to come.

This July, our team will host a Young Professionals conference that will feature interactive workshops, peer networking, professional headshots, and messaging from keynote speaker and local entrepreneur, Zac Parsons. Attendees will be invited to connect with local non-profits and network with select CEOs and Executives. I encourage you to invest in the future of our region by sending your young professionals to this event.

Not convinced? Here's what you can expect your YP's to experience:

1. Career Development: The conference will offer your young professionals a chance to learn new skills and gain insights that they can apply to their work. They will have the opportunity to attend workshops and sessions focused on topics like conflict management in the workplace, personalities in the workplace and board readiness.

2. Networking Opportunities: The conference will be attended by other young professionals from various industries and backgrounds, which will give your employees an opportunity to expand their professional network. They will have the chance to meet potential mentors, colleagues and even future clients.

3. Exposure to New Ideas: The conference will provide your young professionals with a chance to gain insights into the latest trends and practices in business. They will hear from local coffee shop co-owner, public speaker and consultant, Zac Parsons, which will leave them inspired to think creatively and critically about their personal goals and career.

4. Retain Your Talent: Continuing education programs can help attract and retain young professionals. When young professionals feel valued and invested in, it can lead to increased job satisfaction, a sense of accomplishment, and better job performance.

SAVE THE DATE
Date: Thursday, July 27, 2023
Time: 10:00am – 1:00pm
Location: Bally's Walnut Room A & B
RSVP: jkerns@evvregion.com



TARA BARNEY
CEO, E-REP

TARA BARNEY
CEO, E-REP



The Signature Investors are the voice of business in the Evansville Region. This select group of Evansville Regional Economic Partnership (E-REP) Stakeholders guides E-REP's mission and priorities, its affiliates and its lines of work. It drives the Region's greatest opportunities for progress and addresses significant community challenges.

Above all, this leadership investment affords E-REP the capacity to employ and retain a high-quality staff to execute the work of the organization and to ensure that it has sufficient resources to provide leadership for the Region's greatest opportunities.

THANK YOU!



EVANSVILLE REGIONAL
BUSINESS COMMITTEE



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FOURTH TIME'S A CHARM!

Evansville Region Secures \$30 Million Grant to Create Evansville Promise Neighborhood

The University of Evansville (UE) announced the receipt of a \$30 million federal grant program through the United States Department of Education that will establish the Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN). Only three neighborhoods in the nation were awarded in 2023.

The funding will be used to assist children and youth who are growing up in Promise Neighborhoods, providing them with access to outstanding schools as well as robust family and community support systems. These resources will help prepare them to achieve academic excellence, make the transition to college and ultimately embark on a successful career.

The grant application was submitted to the DOE on October 7, 2022 with a total request of \$30 million over five years. Twenty-three Evansville Promise Neighborhood partner agencies accounted for a match totaling \$32,497,295.55, for a total of

more than \$62 million to be invested in the community. This figure comes from the cost invested in providing wraparound care services to the schools and neighborhoods designated as the Evansville Promise Neighborhood. The Promise Neighborhood includes six schools: Evans Elementary School, Delaware Elementary School, Lincoln School, Bosse High School, Lodge Community School, and Glenwood Leadership Academy. E-REP is included as a major partner alongside UE, EVSC and the Evansville Promise Zone.

“Over the past 2-3 years the Evansville Region has committed to enhancing quality of place for both current and future residents through strategic public/private investments. We know that people care about high quality education, access to healthcare, improved infrastructure and access to community resources, all of which are key components of what this approach will enable our communities to prioritize,” said Tara Barney, CEO of the



Over the past 2-3 years the Evansville Region has committed to enhancing quality of place for both current and future residents through strategic public/private investments.

- TARA BARNEY, CEO, E-REP

Evansville Regional Economic Partnership. “This award is further testament to the high level of collaboration and strategic visioning that regional leaders have had, and as the regional economic development organization, we are thrilled to see the lasting impact and opportunity that is fostered through and from this opportunity.”

At E-REP, our region’s strategic goals for the future, also known as Talent EVV, are aligned to create impact alongside the Evansville Promise Neighborhood investment. These goals are: population growth, thriving workforce, upward mobility

and living well. Tyler Stock, Executive Director of Talent EVV, had this to say: “The EPN award is a huge accomplishment for the Evansville Region and will serve as a significant catalyst in advancing the goals of Talent EVV. When you think about the region’s ability to improve self-sufficiency, health outcomes and educational attainment, the EPN approach is one that will take our community further faster. Talent EVV is THE regional transformation plan and EPN along with other resources serve as impactful funding enablers that will change the landscape of how we serve the current and future families and residents of the Evansville Region.”

TALENT EVV
EVANSVILLE REGION

THRIVING WORKFORCE VIRTUAL SESSION

MAY 31 | 8:00 - 9:00 AM CST ▶

Hear from those who are deeply entwined with advancing cluster development, addressing regional workforce and talent demand, and driving industry innovation. Register @evansvilleregion.com

Seven Projects Awarded Funds throughout the Evansville Region

The Southwest Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) obligated an additional \$6 million in Regional Economic + Acceleration Development Initiative (READI) grant funds toward seven transformational projects. In total, the RDA has obligated more than \$41 million of the \$50 million in total for projects throughout the Evansville Region.

“READI funding is helping the Evansville Region to make purposeful investments in our future,” said Tara Barney, CEO of the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership (E-REP). “We are prioritizing the importance of quality of place along with supporting our region’s key economic clusters.”

PROJECTS INCLUDE:

VICTORIA WOODS TRAIL

Warrick County, \$200,000 READI Award

Two miles of beautiful trail to connect Victoria Woods – a 400-home neighborhood – to nearby Friedman and Vann parks, as well as the Castle school system and other neighborhoods. Beginning at Warrick Trails’ current system off Roslin Road, the new trail will feature scenic water views and a canopy of trees. It will cross over a charming pedestrian bridge into Victoria Woods and connect to the Prime Foods Trailhead in Boonville, increasing access to quality-of-place amenities.

KOCH FAMILY CHILDREN’S

MUSEUM OF EVANSVILLE (CMOE)

Vanderburgh County, \$580,000 READI Award

cMoe’s Strategic Plan will expand the idea of play in the region, with the READI portion of the project focusing on their internal exhibit enhancements, expansion and new exhibit additions. This project creates expanded experiences for all who benefit from cultural and recreational experiences: families, children, schools, youth-serving organizations, “Museum for All” users and more.

OHIO TOWNSHIP PARK

Warrick County, \$3,000,000 READI Award

A 20-acre visionary park and green space to be developed alongside a new fire station and community center. The park features a giant modern playground, large engaging splash pad and slide, outdoor fitness stations, running and walking trails, sport courts, event lawns and much more. Located a mile east of Interstate 69, this park will be connected to the Warrick Wellness Trail as well as shopping, restaurants, hotels and workplaces.

BRITTLEBANK PARK

Posey County, \$1,000,000 READI Award

Two new trails and design work for an inclusive playground to support the improvement and expansion efforts at Brittlebank Park in Mount Vernon. There is planning for a loop trail around a pond, a

connector trail, as well as improvements to access and parking. The connector trail will provide a safe and accessible route between the park and nearby West Elementary.

CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT

Regional, \$249,000 READI Award

E-REP will conduct both a regional assessment and strategic roadmap for two key industry growth sectors: Advanced Manufacturing and Health/Life Sciences. This project will focus on catalyzing cluster development to facilitate accelerated economic development and growth for our regional employers and their direct supply chain. Cluster Development will take a deep look into both industries and identify how the region can build capacity and scale for its most impactful employers.

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE’S MULTIDISCIPLINARY MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CLINIC

Regional, \$750,000 READI Award

The development of a community-based clinic for the University of Evansville’s new Doctor of Clinical Psychology (PsyD) program, in which students and faculty provide psychotherapy and psychological testing to clients with mental health problems. The facility will be located on Talbot Square, immediately across Lincoln Avenue, which was purchased by the university. This investment will allow the PsyD program to double its class of incoming students after three years, provide increased opportunities for students, and improve the quality of care delivered by expanding the clinic’s focus to include other allied health care students.

I-69 CORRIDOR PLANNING

Regional, \$249,000 READI Award

The Evansville Metropolitan Area has a unique accelerator arriving over the coming 7-10 years in the Ohio River Crossing I-69 Bridge, which will connect the bi-state region with the National I-69 corridor and eventually Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. This project not only addresses a solution to long-term, cross-river mobility, but it plays to the Evansville Region’s strengths of being in the logistical center of the United States. E-REP will work closely with stakeholders to create a master plan and ensure the corridor and Ohio River Crossing are highly integrated into the Regional Development Plan.

The Evansville Regional Economic Partnership (E-REP) on behalf of the RDA will continue to work with the awarded projects on next steps and review additional projects for READI eligibility. While the request for proposal deadline has passed, E-REP highly encourages anyone with a potential project to reach out to its Economic Development team to better assess and align with resources. Email info@evvregion.com with any questions or inquiries.

E-REP provides the most up-to-date information about READI through its website at evansvilleregion.com/readi-program.



Henderson Community College and Murray State University Partnership

Many across the Evansville Region are familiar with the many higher ed institutions that help to attract, retain, and cultivate talent for our communities. What folks might not realize is that right in our Evansville Region located south across the Ohio River in Henderson County is a presence of Murray State University (MSU).

If you’re familiar with Henderson Community College both Murray State University-Henderson (MSU-Henderson) and Henderson Community College share a physical location east of downtown Henderson. This partnership began in the mid 1990’s and has continued to foster since. In 2000 this partnership really took off to serve both Henderson and Union Counties specifically, but more broadly impacting the entire Evansville Region. This partnership was a response to the talent needs directly related to employment and occupations in education and healthcare. Since then, MSU-Henderson has increased the number of students, programs, and long-term impact that they have had on the Evansville Region, but more specifically Henderson and Union County.

Murray State University serves five regional campuses across the state of Kentucky with the Henderson campus as one of the highest performing locations. MSU-Henderson is driving significant impact and scalability in relation to the number of students that are and can be served in the future. While MSU-Henderson is 4th in overall enrollment in relation to all MSU campuses, the Henderson location is currently the fastest growing campus by percentage and serves a region prime for the sizable growth due to population numbers of those areas served. At the Henderson location alone, Murray State serves approximately 300-500 each semester with the capacity to serve many more students. According to Heather Roy, director of the Henderson

and Madisonville MSU campuses, “Murray State has its eye on Henderson for future growth.”

As for educational attainment impact, the partnership between HCC and MSU-Henderson is truly collaborative; most of the students who finish their four-year degree at MSU-Henderson completed their first two years with HCC. This is a testament to how these two institutions are collaborating to provide a modern and innovative approach to the educational attainment journey of students across Henderson and Union Counties and more broadly the Evansville Region.

When speaking with the folks from both MSU-Henderson and HCC, they highlighted that the most meaningful aspect of this partnership is that students get a personal experience and are delivered an academic career that many students might not have access to in a larger campus setting. Another highlight that the team shared is that MSU-Henderson, because of close proximity to Indiana, shares in-state tuition options for Hoosier residents. Because of this partnership more than 25% of students in the Education program are either from Indiana or end up taking full time roles in Indiana, which is a testament to the regional impact that this partnership is offering students and employers.

The partnership between Murray State Henderson and Henderson Community College is proud of its ability to meet the demand and evolving changes of both students and industry. Across the Evansville Region higher education institutions are catalyzing talent attraction, retention, and cultivation with intentionality and emphasis on community.

To learn more about Talent EVV, go to: www.evansvilleregion.com/talentevv

Call for Volunteers!

The Evansville Region has been selected by the universe to be in the path of totality for the Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024 and we need your help!



Our local steering committee is seeking volunteers to serve on a range of committees whose work will be focused on ensuring Evansville is a premier destination for eclipse viewing in 2024.

This historic event could draw over 500,000 visitors to Indiana, creating an incredible opportunity to showcase our communities and businesses.

By joining a committee, you will:

- **Learn of eclipse preparations first**
- **Help shape planning and arrangements**
- **Hear from experts in the field**
- **Make a positive, immediate impact in the region!**

All you need is the ability to meet 1-2 hours monthly, plus the passion to make a meaningful contribution to the success of this once-in-a-lifetime event.



To volunteer, simply email Amber Phillips at aphillips@visitevansville.com or visit eclipseweb.org and "Apply to be a Stakeholder"



Let's welcome Schmitt Accounting & Tax as a new member of the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership. Schmitt Accounting & Tax can be reached by calling 812-602-0950 or email info@schmittaccounting.com. Read on as LaShea Schmitt, Owner and CPA, tells us about Schmitt Accounting & Tax.

Tell us about Schmitt Accounting & Tax and the services you offer.

Schmitt Accounting & Tax is an accounting firm serving Evansville and the surrounding areas. I became a CPA in 2020 and started this business in 2022. Prior to starting my business, I served in various roles in the accounting industry for several years. Services offered at Schmitt Accounting & Tax include bookkeeping, payroll, business and individual tax preparation, business formation, QuickBooks training/support, and tax planning.

What inspired you to invest your time and resources in this business?

I wanted to create a business that would bring value to people in the community. I also wanted this business to allow me to do what I enjoy while still maintaining a life outside of work. I am motivated to help other business owners do the same by assisting in all accounting facets while they focus on expanding their business. It brings me great satisfaction to be able to help others save more of their time and hard-earned money.

What career advice would you give the younger generation interested in this type of work?

I would advise the younger generation to reach out to business owners and shadow them for a day. It's important to learn what the profession really entails and the various avenues that can be explored. If you're interested in entrepreneurship, connect with other entrepreneurs, and gather insight from them.

In your opinion, what are three ingredients for success?

A strong work ethic, self-discipline, and perseverance.



LaShea Schmitt - Owner and CPA
Schmitt Accounting & Tax

What has been one of your toughest challenges?

My toughest challenge by far has been opening this business. There are so many things to learn when opening any business. It takes a lot of time and effort and there is no written checklist or playbook to follow. It can be very rewarding and fulfilling, but everyone needs guidance and encouragement at times.

Why is the Evansville Region a great place to operate a business?

The Evansville region is expanding and full of opportunity but still offers a tight-knit small town feel. Business owners can create connections to really empower their business and support the community.

What do you like most about the community in which you live?

I love that everyone I've met through these events is more than willing to support other businesses within the community. I like that our community is thriving and has so many like-minded individuals. Everyone is willing to help where they can and build others up.

Is there anything else you would like to share?

I invite you to visit our website at schmittaccounting.com or email info@schmittaccounting.com to see how we can work together.



E-REP Welcomes Brandon McClish as the New Executive Director of the Evansville Regional Sports Commission



BRANDON MCCLISH
Executive Director
Evansville Regional Sports Commission

The Evansville Regional Economic Partnership (E-REP) and the Evansville Regional Sports Commission (ERSC) announce that Brandon McClish has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Evansville Regional Sports Commission and will begin work in his new role on May 15, 2023. For the past five years, McClish has been General Manager for Learfield Sports at the University of Evansville. In addition, he has worked as the Director of Operations and Sales for the Evansville Otters, as well as in other sales positions.



Brandon's expertise in the sports industry, sales experience, leadership qualities, and working relationships within the business community made him a standout for the position."

- TARA BARNEY, CEO, E-REP

"Brandon's expertise in the sports industry, sales experience, leadership qualities, and working relationships within the business community made him a standout for the position," said Tara Barney, CEO of E-REP. "I am thrilled that Brandon will lead the Evansville Regional Sports Commission as I have been impressed with his vision on how the Commission can boost our economy by bringing additional high-quality sports events to the Evansville Region."

McClish completed his B.S. degree from the University of Southern Indiana. He serves as a member of the West Side Nut Club, Granted, Coaches versus Cancer Committee of the American Cancer Society, past chairperson of the E-REP Young Professional Alliance, commissioner for the Evansville Sports Commission, Board member of E-REP, and was a 2020 Rotary Club of Evansville 20 under 40 recipient.

About the Evansville Regional Sports Commission:

The Evansville Regional Sports Commission is a 501(c)3 Not-for-Profit dedicated to enhancing the image, economy and quality of life of the greater Evansville Region through the attraction, creation and promotion of high-profile sporting events. Evansville takes pride in providing a memorable championship atmosphere for all events, big or small. Our devoted volunteer base, great venues and central location make hosting an event in Evansville a pleasant experience and one that athletes and spectators won't soon forget.

Meet Keregan Cole, E-REP's New Membership Coordinator

Keregan Cole, born and raised in Olney, IL, completed her Bachelors in Marketing at the University of Southern Indiana in 2019. After graduation, she worked for the non-profit organization Girl Scouts of Southwest Indiana for two and a half years. Keregan, resides in Mount Vernon, IN with her husband and two fur babies. In her free time, Keregan enjoys the outdoors and spending time with friends and family.

What are you looking forward to most in your new role?

I look forward to helping people, making a difference, and building relationships with professionals and organizations in our community.

Why are you passionate about the Evansville Region?

I'm passionate about the Evansville region because it has opened a lot of endless opportunities for an individual from a small-town community where opportunities are limited. The easy accessibility to top tier schools, all the local small businesses and restaurants,

employment opportunities, and health care made it an easy decision for me and my husband to call this place home.

What do you love about our EREP Members?

What I love most about our E-REP members is the sense of community. Each member is fully invested and passionate about expanding and bettering our community. You couldn't ask for a better group of working professionals to work side by side with.

What sets Cowork Evansville apart from other coworking spaces?

Cowork Evansville provides that vibrant community atmosphere. When you are in the cowork space you are welcomed by smiling faces and multiple opportunities to make connections with other entrepreneurs.

What should someone contact you for?

Feel free to contact me for membership needs and for all things Cowork Evansville.



KEREGAN COLE
Membership Coordinator
Evansville Regional Economic Partnership

812-253-1014 x2205
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North Posey Business Teacher, Matthew Winegar wins Teacher of the Year Award

Matthew Winegar receives the Posey County Teacher of the Year Award, and is pictured here with family and friends at the 2023 Posey County State of Schools.

Matthew Winegar, Business teacher at North Posey Junior High School, was honored as Posey County Teacher of the Year. The award was presented during the 2023 Posey County State of the Schools event held at the CountryMark Innovation Center in Mount Vernon.

The annual award is given to an outstanding Posey County classroom teacher or administrator who is a dedicated and skilled leader, inspires students, demonstrates leadership, and has the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues.

A 2001 graduate of North Posey, Matthew Winegar served 10 years in the Navy before returning to Southwest Indiana to raise his three children. He earned a master's degree in business administration and worked in healthcare management for 10 years before leaving the industry for one that fulfilled him personally – teaching. After earning his teaching license, Winegar applied at his Alma Mater and was hired as the Business teacher.

“All that purpose and fulfillment that I was searching for, I have found in teaching and coaching and in doing my part to help my students to reach their goals and their potential in whatever way

I can,” said Winegar. Nominated by multiple colleagues and peers, Winegar’s nominators mentioned how highly involved he is outside the classroom and how he’s “always available to any student who wants to talk.” Outside the Business classroom, Winegar coaches Junior High Football, Junior High Track and Field, and the High School Speech Team. He is also a member of the STEM Committee and leads several of the projects.

Upon receiving the Teacher of the Year Award at the Posey County State of Schools, Winegar thanked North Posey High School Principal Sean Fisher and North Posey Junior High Principal Steve Kavanaugh for being the first people to give him an opportunity in the noble profession of teaching.

Winegar added, “This award means so much to me. While serving in the Navy I was awarded 10 medals and this award means just as much to me as any of those. When I was told I was selected as the Teacher of the Year, I was honestly at a loss for words, which is rare for me as the speech coach. I am so honored because I know just how many phenomenal teachers we have in this county and how much effort we all put into preparing our students for the next phase of their lives.”



Let’s welcome Make Your Mark as a new member of the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership. Make Your Mark is located at 106 N. First Ave. in Princeton and can be reached by calling 812-664-8680 or email makeyourmarkemb@gmail.com. Read on as owners Emily Wright and Lenae Greenwell tell us about Make Your Mark.

Tell us about Make Your Mark and the services you offer.

We are a women-owned small business offering custom apparel. We provide quality apparel, custom designs, in any quantity at affordable pricing. We offer screen print, embroidery, and (DTG) Direct to Garment.

What inspired you to invest your time and resources in this business?

I (Emily) have an accounting background. I was doing the bookkeeping for Make Your Mark (MYM) and saw the potential it had to grow. When the opportunity to buy it came up I jumped at it. Since then we have been making changes in quality and performance to gain a competitive advantage.

What career advice would you give the younger generation interested in this type of work?

- Know your customer! Work Hard!
- Quality is key
- Fast turn-around

In your opinion, what are three ingredients for success?

1. Create a great work environment to lock in good employees who will be loyal.
2. Customer service is paramount in retaining customers.
3. Quality products at a quick set turnaround is key.

What has been one of your toughest challenges?

It has taken us time to learn who our customers are and what they want at what price point.



Emily Wright and Lenae Greenwell, owners Make Your Mark

Why is the Evansville Region a great place to operate a business?

The Evansville Region is a great place to operate a business because of the many resources it provides. We have plenty of options for community involvement.

What do you like most about the community in which you live?

We have a small town atmosphere with big growth opportunities. The community support is amazing. We are not lacking in businesses willing to help us grow. We all are happy to work together for a common good.

Is there anything else you would like to share?

We are proud of our two-week turnaround, six years of owning the business and being moms of multiples - Emily (16-year- old quintuplets) and Lenae (5-year-old twins and 3-year-old singleton)

AI for small business. Where to start?

By **Better Business Bureau**

Artificial intelligence (AI) can help a business understand its customers, keep accurate books, and spot cyber threats. Gone are the days when AI was a tool available that only big businesses could afford. Now, small business owners can harness the power of AI to improve their bottom line. If you're exploring how AI can help automate tasks and streamline operations in your small business, here are a few things to consider.

How to implement AI in your small business

Identify where you need AI. There are many ways AI can add value to your business. Most commonly, AI is employed to improve marketing, customer service, accounting, data collection and insights, and cybersecurity. To determine where AI can help your business, list all the tasks you're responsible for. Next, estimate how much time you spend on each task. Rank the list by time spent to see where AI could save you the most time.

Next, run a cost/benefit analysis. As with any business investment, it's essential to base the decision on a cost/benefit analysis rather than a desire for the latest trending product. Take a hard look at how AI can generate money for your business or free up your employees' time to focus on more profitable tasks. If the gains aren't there, or if they are too minimal to matter, you may want to hold off on investing in AI.

Start small. Start with low-risk, low-cost projects and use a small dataset for your first project. If you need to, adjust along the way. Look into low-cost or even free software solutions. Then, expand to bigger initiatives after you get some measurable results that prove AI's value to your business (and confirm your strategy is working).

Prepare your data. With your objectives determined and the benefit confirmed, it's time to gather your data. AI algorithms only work when you have a clear goal and data for the AI to learn from. Ensure your relevant data is as accurate and organized as

possible before you get started. Also, ensure you have a reliable, ongoing way to collect data related to your business goals. The more high-quality data you have, the better your AI will work, especially over longer periods.

Stay up to date. This field constantly evolves, and staying on top of trends and changes is essential. Read up on new AI products targeted at smaller businesses and "test" them out. You may find a new product that's better than what you currently have or addresses your specific need.

Look at your existing software. Many existing software solutions are rolling out new AI features. Here's one example: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2023/03/14/google-workspace-ai/>. Before purchasing new software, review your existing programs and speak to their customer support. You may find that the AI feature you want is already on their product roadmap.

Do your research. No matter what route to AI you choose, doing thorough research is vital. Look to businesses with a good reputation. Search for business ratings and customer reviews on [BBB.org](https://www.bbb.org) and other third-party websites. Don't skip this step. Your business and sensitive data are on the line.

For more information

Visit the [BBB small business page](https://www.bbb.org) to learn more ways to grow your business and overcome common business challenges. Read these tips for [running your small business more efficiently](https://www.bbb.org).

Learn how to become a BBB Accredited Business. You can contact your Tri-State Better Business Bureau at 812-473-0202.

To review this article and hyperlinked references in full, visit: <https://www.bbb.org/article/business/28420-bbb-business-tip-ai-for-small-business-where-to-start>

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www.acehandyservices.com
- ALLIED ELECTRIC**
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www.alliedelectric.com
- B. LANAE SALON & SPA**
12101 Hwy 41 N. Ste. A, Evansville, N 47725
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- HOTWORX OF EVANSVILLE**
6436 E. Florida St. Suite 103, Evansville, IN 47715
Dana Maloney 812-909-8878
dana.maloney@hotworx.net
www.hotworx.net/studio/evansville-northburkhardt

- KEY HOUSING SOLUTION**
650 Castro St Suite 120-457
Mountain View, CA 94041
Lauren Burton 833-317-340
hello@keyhousingsolutions.com
www.keyhousingsolutions.com
- MISTER B'S**
1340 Hirschland Rd., Evansville, IN 47715
Josh Melton 812-402-2090
mrbsjosh@gmail.com
www.misterbspizza.com
- OMANI HOPE CONSULTING, LLC**
11414 Caracaras Ct., Evansville, IN 47725
Jessica Thomas 812-202-8037
omanihopeconsulting@outlook.com
www.omanihopeconsulting.com
- OPTIMAL RHYTHMS, INC.**
1003 SR 662 West, Newburgh, IN 47630
Casey DePriest 812-490-9401
admin@optimalrhythms.org
www.optimalrhythms.org
- PURSUE CREATIVE MARKETING**
5735 Brookstone Drive, Newburgh, IN 47630
Tarra Gray 352-816-1115
tarrarot@gmail.com
www.pursuecreativemarketing.com
- RESPONSE MEDICAL TRAINING**
Joshua Hill 270-860-5548
joshua.hill@responsemedicaltraining.com
- SLEDGEHAMMER PRINTING**
P.O. Box 1446, Newburgh, IN 47629
Chris Hubbard 812-629-2160
chris@sledgehammerprinting.com
www.sledgehammerprinting.com
- STRATTON INTERIORS**
Candis Stratton 812-589-5359
candis@stratton-interiors.com
www.stratton-interiors.com
- THE JOINT CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC**
4444 W. Lloyd Expressway, Evansville, IN 47712
Charlotte Ziem 930-600-1682
charlotte.ziem@thejoint.com
www.thejoint.com/evansville
- THE WIDUP GROUP**
5924 Long Pond Way, Evansville, IN 47711
Richard Widup 812-746-3162
rich@thewidupgroup.com
www.thewidupgroup.com
- TIMI'S TOURS**
230 S. Main St., Moweaqua, IL 62550
Jack Kaufman 800-682-8214
jack@timistours.com
www.timistours.com

WILLOWTREE OF POSEY COUNTY
PO Box 184, Mount Vernon, IN 47620
Beth Baro 812-838-3077
beth.baro@willowtreepc.org
www.willowtreepc.org

MEMBERSHIP UPGRADE

YOSHI INDUSTRIAL PACKAGING SUPPLY
7801 Bussing Drive Air Cargo
Evansville, IN 47725
Teri Collins 1-800-430-1417
teri.collins@yoshissupply.com
www.yoshissupply.com

MEMBER RENEWALS

- 2 Morrows Heating and Cooling, LLC
- Amy Higgs State Farm
- Atria Senior Living
- Bancroft Blue Design
- Bell Oaks Place Senior Living
- Clark Dietz, Inc.
- CTG Advisory Group
- Custom Sign & Engineering, Inc.
- Dermatology Associates of Indy
- Diamond Valley Federal Credit Union
- Evansville Goodwill Industries, Inc.
- Fairfield Inn By Marriott-West

- Family First Companion Care
- First Bank
- G R Freeman Heating & Air Conditioning
- Holiday Inn Express Downtown
- Humana, Inc.
- Indiana Farm Bureau - Brian Cooper Agency
- Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance -
Dusty Wilhite Agency
- Indiana Furniture
- Jackson Kelly PLLC
- Kings Great Buys Plus
- Kitch & Schreiber, Inc.
- KLH Designs
- Lang Company
- Lasting Order
- Pink Suitcase Travel
- Prime Foods
- Progressive Health Rehabilitation
- R2B2 Industries DBA Pipeconx
- Simms Painting Co., Inc.
- St. Vincent Early Learning Center
- Summit Real Estate Services
- The Selling Table
- Thrifty Car Care Center
- Traylor Construction Group
- Vandco Associates, LLC
- Vidal Plastics

RIBBON CUTTINGS & MILESTONES

Milestone celebrations are a benefit of Evansville Regional Economic Partnership membership. To request a milestone ribbon-cutting click or scan the QR code.



FOUR CORNERS FURNITURE SHOWROOM
Four Corners Furniture Showroom celebrated a grand opening with a ribbon cutting at 1107 Washington Square in Evansville. Four Corners is a partnership between the Evansville Rescue Mission and the Southwest Indiana Association of REALTORS® to help residents with unwanted and unneeded items as part of moving. All monies generated from the partnership go directly to the Evansville Rescue Mission and will provide meals, clothing, shelter and life changing programs to those in need. Contact them at 812-421-3800 or visit them at www.evansvillerescuemission.org.

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RIBBON CUTTINGS & MILESTONES

Milestone celebrations are a benefit of Evansville Regional Economic Partnership membership. To request a milestone ribbon-cutting click or scan the QR code.



WINE-OH! TOURS & EVENTS

Wine-Oh! Tours & Events celebrated a 12-year anniversary and rebranding with a ribbon-cutting in Evansville. Owner, Pam Reimann, is an internationally certified wine expert offering wine education/entertainment "edu-tainment". This is done with wine tastings, and wine and food pairings in your home or business. Contact them at 812-453-2173 or visit them at www.pamspassport.com.



LARSEN PACKAGING PRODUCTS, INC.

Larsen Packaging Products, Inc. celebrated a grand opening with a ribbon-cutting at 1231 E. Michigan Street in Evansville. Larsen Packaging Products is a manufacturer and distributor of custom corrugated products and packaging supplies. Contact them at 419-764-6209 or visit them at www.larsenpackaging.com.



TROTTER HOUSE OF POSEY COUNTY

Trotter House of Posey County celebrated a grand opening with a ribbon-cutting at 220 W. Fourth St. Unit A in Mount Vernon. Trotter House of Posey County is a family resource center offering specialized programs and services to assist women and families who find themselves facing an unplanned pregnancy or difficult life situation. Contact them at 812-781-9284 or visit them at www.trotterhouse.org.



LENSING BUILDING SPECIALTIES

Lensing Building Specialties celebrated a 75-year anniversary with a ribbon-cutting at 600 N. Sixth Avenue in Evansville. Lensing Building Specialties is an Evansville-based, family-owned building materials distributor. Lensing has grown from a small distribution company selling a few products to lumber yards in the greater Evansville region to a robust distributor with residential and commercial divisions selling a wide range of building materials. Contact them at 812-423-6891 or visit them at www.lensingbuildingspecialties.com.



ST. VINCENT EARLY LEARNING CENTER

St. Vincent Early Learning Center celebrated an expansion with a ribbon-cutting at 730 W. Delaware Street in Evansville. St. Vincent Early Learning Center is an accredited early childhood education and care center that starts all children on a pathway to lifetime success and coordinates programs and services to help their families thrive. Contact them at 812-424-4780 or visit them at www.stvincentearlylearningcenter.org.



POSH ON MAIN

Posh on Main celebrated a 4-year anniversary with a ribbon-cutting at 330 B Main St. in Downtown Evansville. Posh on Main is a boutique highlighting local artisans offering clothing, jewelry, lotions, candles, seasonal decor and much more. Contact them at 812-401-0075 or visit them at www.posh-onmain.com.

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RIBBON CUTTINGS & MILESTONES

Milestone celebrations are a benefit of Evansville Regional Economic Partnership membership. To request a milestone ribbon-cutting click or scan the QR code.



JOE BREWSKI COFFEE

Joe Brewski Coffee celebrated a 1-year anniversary in Downtown Evansville with a ribbon-cutting at 10 NW 6th Street. Joe Brewski provides cold brew coffee, roasted in house. They offer beans, brews, cookies, sodas, lemonades whether it be for wholesale, catering, retail, or fundraisers. Contact them at 812-431-6145 or visit them at www.joebrewski.com.



VPS ARCHITECTURE, INC.

VPS Architecture, Inc. celebrated a grand opening with a ribbon-cutting at 920 Read Street in Evansville. VPS Architecture strives to be continually involved in the community we serve. Our team engages their passions to make a difference locally, and we are honored to be a supporter of JD Sheth's Home of the Brave initiative. This project is JDSF's first affordable housing initiative in Evansville, IN, and will provide affordable homeownership opportunities to veterans in our community. Contact them at 812-423-7729 or visit them at www.vpsarch.com.



OPTIMAL RHYTHMS, INC.

Optimal Rhythms, Inc. celebrated a grand re-opening and rebranding with a ribbon-cutting at 1003 SR 662 W in Newburgh. Optimal Rhythms is a local nonprofit with a mission to support nonspeaking autistic individuals, their families and the community that aims to serve them. Optimal Rhythms is a leader in autism education and advocacy. Their innovative private school, ACCESS Academy, has been the recipient of several Leadership Evansville awards and a national VELA Education Award. Contact them at 812-490-9401 or visit them at www.optimalrhythms.org.



WILLOWTREE OF POSEY COUNTY

WillowTree of Posey County celebrated a grand opening with a ribbon-cutting at 1200 O'Donnell Road in Mount Vernon. Willow Tree of Posey County provides advocacy and assistance to those affected by domestic and sexual violence, and strives to interrupt the cycle of violence through outreach and education. Contact them at 812-838-3077 or visit them at www.willowtreepc.org.



OAK STREET HEALTH

Oak Street Health celebrated a new location and grand opening with a ribbon-cutting at 2201 South Weinbach Avenue in Evansville. Oak Street Health specializes in outstanding primary care for older adults, and adults younger than 65 who are Medicare eligible. Our dedicated doctors and care team members take the time to know and understand individual health needs, develop personalized and preventive care. Contact them at 812-598-4295 or visit them at www.oakstreethealth.com.



CHARLES SCHWAB

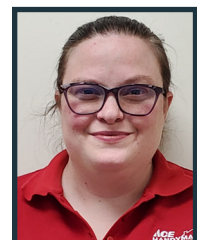
Charles Schwab celebrated a 5-year anniversary with a ribbon-cutting at 236 N. Burkhardt Road in Evansville. Charles Schwab is proud to serve Evansville residents and the surrounding areas with the tools they need to take ownership of their wealth and establish financial plans based on their goals. Contact them at 812-618-0070 or visit them at www.schwab.com/evansville.



MARIA MARTON

Maria Marton joined Urban Seeds in Evansville, as its new Executive Director. She previously served as Operations and Finance Manager of the Nashville Farmers' Market with the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and as an AmeriCorps member with the NE Iowa Food & Fitness Initiative. She follows Robin Mallery, who retired as

Director, after having been involved with the organization for 9 years. Urban Seeds is a nonprofit organization that works to create food systems that provide access to nourishing foods for all community members, with a focus on locally grown produce and locally prepared foods. The organization partners with schools, like-minded organizations, children's centers, shelters, faith-based organizations, businesses and nonprofits to create a healthy community, in which local neighbors are supported — be it as a food grower, a food producer, or a food consumer. The Evansville area is home to a deep disparity in access to nourishing food that Urban Seeds works to lessen through advocacy and outreach programs.



LOREEN VEAZEY

Ace Handyman Services Evansville hired Loreen Veazey as office manager. Ace Handyman Services is the newest tool in the Ace Hardware toolbox, specializing in small home improvement and maintenance projects using licensed, insured, and bonded full-time employees. To schedule services, Veazey can be reached at (812) 382-6613.



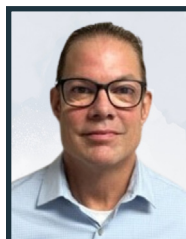
JOSEPH HARRISON JR.

Joseph Harrison Jr. joined Dentons' Evansville office as a partner in the Public Policy & Regulation practice, bringing more than 30 years of experience working with government agencies in southwestern Indiana. He currently serves as attorney for Posey County, Indiana, the Vanderburgh County Redevelopment

Commission, and the Evansville-Vanderburgh County Building Authority. A lifelong resident of Evansville, Harrison began his government involvement in the region in 1991 by representing the Vanderburgh County Council. Over the years, he has served as attorney for numerous agencies, including Vanderburgh County, the City of Evansville, and the Area Plan Commission of Evansville-Vanderburgh County. In addition to his public policy practice, Harrison advises local businesses on labor and employment issues, contracts, real estate matters, leases, acquisitions, and day-to-day operations. He also represents business clients before government agencies, drawing on his extensive municipal experience. Joe also represents individuals in a variety of matters, including litigation and estate planning. Prior to joining Dentons, Joe had his own law firm and previously practiced at Massey Law Offices and Bowers Harrison in Evansville. He is a 1984 graduate of Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law and earned his BA from DePauw University in 1981.

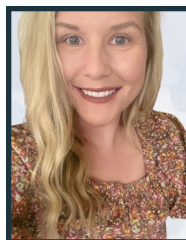
THE ARC OF EVANSVILLE

The ARC of Evansville made a new hire and a promotion:



JEFF GRAY

Jeff Gray joined The Arc of Evansville as the Director of Community Supports. He earned a Bachelor of Education from the University of Southern Indiana. He has extensive management experience, encompassing both nonprofit and for-profit organizations. Gray is passionate about working with individuals of all ages and advocates for the inclusion and rights of individuals with disabilities.



MEGAN PRICKETT

Megan Prickett was promoted from Behavior Support Specialist to Behavior Support Manager at The Arc of Evansville. She joined The Arc in 2017 after she received her Master's Degree in Clinic Psychology from Western Kentucky University in 2015. On top of her new role, Prickett will continue to be a Mandt System trainer for employee training.

LEADERSHIP EVERYONE

Leadership Everyone honored its Celebration of Leadership award winners.

DIVISION AWARDS: Individual – Rev. Floyd Edwards, Sr; Project or Program – Children's Mental Health ChangeLab; Business or Organization: Soul Writer's Guild

SPECIAL AWARDS: Spirit Award – Teddy the Therapy Pig; Sam Featherstone Youth Award – Jack Deig; Sam Featherstone Youth Award – Annie Kim; Sam Featherstone Youth Award – Incognito Instructors; Leader in Technology Award – Data Analytics ChangeLab; Kevin Fleming Justice Award – Sophie Kloppenburg; Community Collaboration Award – Elf Academy; Bryce Jordan Servant Leader Award – USI Bus Drivers – James Putnam and Jermaine Razor; Inspiration Award – Mothers at War Ministries & Resource Center, Inc.; Willie Effie Thomas Diversity Award – Wendy Chinn; LatinX Award – Elisabet Sena-Martin; Raising the Bar Award – Julie Davis-Brunner; Sara B. Davies Award – Marcia Lynch-Duncan; Darrell Ragland Award – Brian Southern; Civic Engagement Award – Jason Emmerson; Shirley James "Greening the Community" Award – Deaconess Green Team; Outstanding Innovation Award – Dr. Rob Carroll; Lt. Colonel Reginald P. Gibson Award – Chris Metz; Winternheimer/LaMar Public Service Award – Mario Reid; Susan Kelley Jordan Leader in Courage Award – Joann and Mason Bogard; Community Collaboration Award – Kelley Coures; Philanthropy Award – Over the Edge for Granted; Regional Impact Award – Suzanne Schriber; Transformational Inclusion Award – EVSC Festival of Nations; Visionary Award – Ted McCreary; Lifetime Achievement Award – Rev. Gerald Arnold; Lifetime Achievement Award – Estella Moss

RECOGNITION FOR INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT: Arts – Justin McCullough-Haddix; Community & Neighborhood – Andrew Backes; Education – Robin Woebkenberg; Government, Public Service, & Environment – Deonte Meriweather; Health & Social Services – Jessica Schnur;

RECOGNITION FOR PROJECT OR PROGRAM

ACHIEVEMENT: Arts – Joshua Academy Music Instruction ChangeLab; Community & Neighborhood – International Food Festival; Education – EVSC OptIN Signing Day; Government, Public Service, & Environment – Paws for Comfort; Health & Social Services – Deaconess SANES

RECOGNITION FOR BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION

ACHIEVEMENT: Arts – Bokeh Lounge; Community & Neighborhood – Mae's Way Foundation; Education – Autism Evansville; Government, Public Service, & Environment – Southwest Indiana Small Business Development Center; Health & Social Services – Evansville Christian Life Center



ZAC NELSON

Heritage Federal Credit Union named Zac Nelson as its Chief Credit Officer. Nelson holds Accounting and Management degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has more than 20 years of experience in commercial banking.

STERLING INDUSTRIAL

Sterling Industrial announced a promotion and a new hire:



BRITTANY ROUDENBUSH

Brittany Roudenbush was promoted to Project Manager at Sterling Industrial. She has more than 16 years of experience with the organization in roles including project management, cost control, construction management, and scheduling for construction projects such as educational buildings, pharmaceutical facilities, hospitals, and building renovations.



ROYCE ASHBY

Royce Ashby joined Sterling Industrial as Equipment Department Manager. Ashby managed the recently acquired Industrial Contractors, Inc. equipment business for more than 30 years. He will now manage all project operator dispatching needs for Sterling's equipment fleet containing over 2,000 assets for various projects and customers.



DR. JULIE MCCULLOUGH

Dr. Julie McCullough, Interim Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, was appointed Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP) at the University of Southern Indiana, effective July 1, 2023. McCullough has served as Interim Associate Provost for Academic Affairs since January 2023. From 2017

to 2022, she served as Assistant Dean of Health Professions in the CNHP. She also serves as Chair of the Food and Nutrition Department and is an Associate Professor of Nutrition. McCullough previously served as a Core 39 Curriculum Facilitator for the College. Since the position became vacant due to a retirement in 2021, Dr. Constance Swenty, who was serving as Assistant Dean of Nursing, stepped into the role as the College's Interim Dean. Swenty intends to retire June 30 after 17 years of service. As Dean, McCullough will report directly to the Provost, serve as the College's chief academic officer, and represent the College as a member of the Provost's Council. At USI, McCullough led the creation of the Food and Nutrition bachelor's degree, two minors and accreditation of the Dietetics program. McCullough collaborated with architects on the design and conversion of the Health Professions Center, including the addition of state-of-the-art food and nutrition classroom and laboratory space. She also helped create two student organizations in the College. McCullough is a founding member of the Evansville Area Food Council and a leadership group member of the Welborn Foundation Healthy Communities Partnership. She has been instrumental in numerous community health and nutrition endeavors around the Tri-State area. She is an Indiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Outstanding Dietitian of the Year and Outstanding Dietetic Educator. She earned the first Faculty Affairs Excellence in Teaching Award from the CNHP and Quality Matters certification for online course design. McCullough holds a bachelor's degree from Purdue University and master's and doctoral degrees in nutrition from the University of Tennessee. Her areas of expertise are centered around dietetics, and her research focuses on food system policy.

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E-REP AMBASSADORS OF THE MONTH MARCH 2023



KASEY FUQUAY
STATE FARM



CHRIS HANCOCK
LIBERTY FCU

Thank you,



FOR YOUR ENGAGEMENT
IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY!

#elooksgoodonyou

MATTHEW 25 AIDS SERVICES

Matthew 25 AIDS Services made new hires:



**PORSHIA
SHEPHERD**



**KARA
LORENZANA**



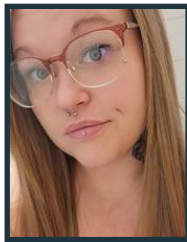
**DAVID
MCKINNEY**



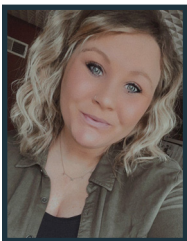
**JUSTIN
YARBROUGH**



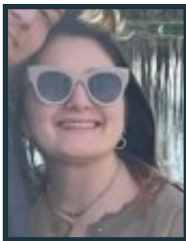
**BRITNEY
MOSS**



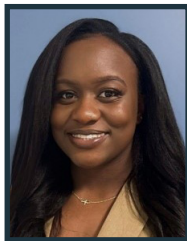
**LAUREN
DIXON**



LEAH BOND



**OLIVIA
BLANCO**



**NATALEE
DARNES**

Porshia Shepherd is now Kentucky Prevention and Education Coordinator. She directs overall Kentucky prevention and outreach activities for Matthew 25.

Kara Lorenzana is a phlebotomist. She provides clinical expertise to ensure patients receive high-quality, efficient care, performs venipunctures and finger sticks, processes medical laboratory tests, and documents results for diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease.

David McKinney is a Kentucky Prevention and Education Specialist, responsible for working with the community along with Matthew 25 staff to insure that newly diagnosed youth are connected to specialized HIV healthcare.

Justin Yarbrough is Kentucky PrEP Navigator, responsible for working with the community and Matthew 25 staff to focus on increasing PrEP awareness and availability, and to work to engage high-risk individuals in PrEP services.

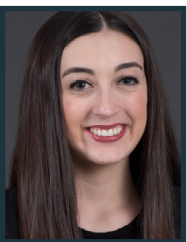
Britney Moss is an Insurance and Eligibility Specialist. She is responsible for helping clients enroll in and maintain active insurance and to determine eligibility for other social programs.

Lauren Dixon is an Indiana Prevention and Education Specialist, responsible for working with the community and Matthew 25 staff to ensure that newly diagnosed and current individuals with Hepatitis C are connected to healthcare.

Leah Bond is an Indiana CMA, performing various clinical and administrative duties while operating independently as part of the clinical team focused on delivering patient-centered quality care.

Olivia Blanco is an Indiana Prevention and Education Specialist, responsible for working with the community and Matthew 25 staff to ensure that newly diagnosed and current individuals with Hepatitis C are connected to healthcare.

Natalee Darnes is Administrative Support Specialist. She will perform office administrative tasks and work closely with administration in supporting the needs of the organization’s employees.



SAVANNAH STAPLES

Savannah M. Staples, who will graduate summa cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in English teaching and minors in secondary education licensure and psychology, was named the recipient of the President’s Medal, the highest honor bestowed to a graduate in the Class of 2023. An avid volunteer, a recipient of the

Sherrienne Standley Service Award, and the Indiana Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Outstanding Future Educator Award winner, Staples is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in and beyond the classroom. During her time at USI, she has been extensively involved in the Honors Program. During her senior year, Staples served as the Honors Program Co-Service Chair, planning several service events including “After School @ USI” and “Service Saturday at Posey Humane Society (PHS).” Staples brought junior high students from the Dream Center—an after-school program serving underprivileged students—to campus for “After School @ USI,” exposing them to the benefits of higher education. At “Service Saturday at PHS,” she volunteered alongside 22 USI Honors students. Additionally, she has served as an Honors Program mentor and Honors Living Learning Community member. At the start of her senior year, Staples represented USI internationally as one of the first students to study abroad post-pandemic. As a USI Global Engagement Scholar, she studied diversity and representation trends in children’s literature in Dublin, Ireland, during the 2022 Summer Semester. Staples presented her findings at the Global Engagement Research Forum during the 2022-23 academic year, allowing her to establish a strong foundation as a social justice orientated educator for her future students. For her 2022 Fall Semester Honors Capstone project, she researched how racism, gender discrimination, and classism affect secondary schools, providing recommendations from her research to school administrators, teachers and education students. Her research was also presented at the USI Honors Symposium during the 2022 Fall Semester. Following her graduation, she will continue to promote diversity, equity and inclusion in education by teaching high school English at a local public school. Staples expresses great appreciation for her Honors Program Co-Service chair, Kinley Day, the Honors Program team and all her influential professors in the USI English and Teacher Education departments. Other finalists for the President’s Medal from the Class of 2023 included Hortensia M. Almanza Guizado, Molly E. Donoho and Sarah E. Fruit. The Student Affairs Committee of Faculty Senate annually selects the recipient of the President’s Medal.

MORTON SOLAR & ELECTRIC

Morton Solar & Electric formed a Board of Advisors to help guide and oversee growth, leadership, and human resource initiatives. The members are:



ERIC WILLIAMS

Eric Williams, Director of Security at Old National Bank and former Vanderburgh County Sheriff (2006-2014). Williams was instrumental in the design and construction of the new Vanderburgh County Jail, and he was the first Student Board of Trustee member as the University of Southern Indiana became an independent university. He will advise on

servant leadership development and core values.



JACK BUTTRUM

Jack Buttrum, the former President of Swanson Nunn Electric Company and Knight Electric Company, has extensive experience as a business owner and entrepreneur. He has served on volunteer boards with the Evansville Wartime Museum, Rotary International, and CAPE. He was instrumental in the development of

the Oak Hill Cemetery Solar Project by Vectren and the City of Evansville. He has advised Morton Solar on commercial projects with Indiana American Water, Vuteq, and AstraZeneca, and played a role in the donation of two solar energy systems in the past year to CAPE for low-income housing in Evansville.



JIM DANIELS

Jim Daniels, former Recycling Coordinator for Vanderburgh County, helped develop and gain funding for some of the earliest agricultural and small business solar energy projects in the region. He served on the boards of the Izaak Walton League and Wesselman Nature Society, and he helped form the Patoka Refuge Individuals


Defending the Environment, the Southern Indiana, Recycling Initiative, and Sustainable Communities Coalition.



TALMON HAYWOOD

Talmon Haywood is an inside advisor as Production and Safety Manager at Morton Solar. He is a member of IBEW Local 16 and has worked for Morton Solar for more than 12 years. He served as foreman on historical jobs such as the Richardsville Elementary School and the Chrisney Library, and he has extensive experience in residential rooftop

solar installation. He previously was the weatherization manager for CAPE in Evansville.



STORYTELLING
COMMUNITY
COFFEE

EVERY
WEDNESDAY
MORNING!

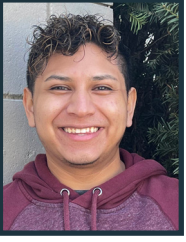
8:00 - 9:00 AM
@INNOVATION POINTE

REXING COMPANIES

Rexing Companies made new hires:



OLIVIA SEVIC



ISAAC SCOTT



CODY KURTZ



**CAMERON
STUTEVILL**



RON WILHITE

Olivia Sevic is a Human Resources Intern

Isaac Scott is an ECS Administrative Assistant

Cody Kurtz is an ECS Forklift Driver

Cameron Stutevill is an ECS Forklift Driver

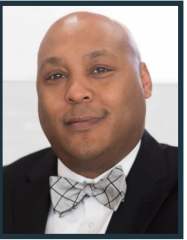
Ron Wilhite is a PFL Logistics Coordinator



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF
EVANSVILLE**

Ai’Zsoni, the current Boys & Girls Club of Evansville Youth of the Year, was named the Indiana State Youth of the Year in Indianapolis. Judging was done via essays, presentations and interviews, and all the teens completed a service project and visited the State House. Ai’Zsoni is the

first Evansville representative in the National Youth of the Year competition since 1964, when club member Ed Bassemier won the title.



TROY WHITE

Troy White joined F.C. Tucker Emge as a new agent with The James Sutton Group. White is a graduate of Ball State University with a bachelor’s degree in sports administration. He has been responsible for leading mentoring programs and has also taught and coached basketball in developmental leagues and at the high school level.

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Every Other Friday 8am - 9:30am
SIGN UP AT: WWW.EVANSVILLEREGION.COM

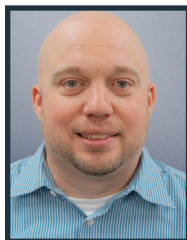
LENSING BUILDING SPECIALTIES AND ARCHITECTURAL SALES

Lensing Building Specialties and Architectural Sales, an Evansville-headquartered building materials distributor, announces the addition of three new team members.



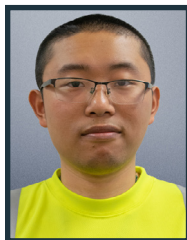
JARROD MCCONNELL

Jarrod McConnell is now a Delivery and Warehouse Associate. He will be tasked with delivering the company's residential and commercial building materials to home centers and construction sites across Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee.



MATT HILL

Matt Hill is now Overhead door Department Manager. He'll lead both the sales and installation teams and act as a liaison between our manufacturers, customers and team members.



ZHONGSHEN YANG

Zhongshen Yang is a Fabricator with the door, frame and hardware department at Architectural Sales, the commercial division of Lensing Building Specialties. He will be tasked with fabricating a wide variety of hollow metal products for use in commercial and industrial construction and maintenance projects.



ARE YOU IN?

36%

Companies scoring in the top quartile for ethnic and cultural diversity are 36% more profitable than those in the bottom quartile.

(McKinsey)

TAKE THE E-REP DEI ACTION @

www.evansvilleregion.com/programs-initiatives/dei-toolkit/

THE TOWN OF CHANDLER

The Town of Chandler, Indiana, announced the appointment of Kirk Tevault as the new Chief of Police and Jordan Carr as the Assistant Chief of Police for the Chandler Police Department.



KIRK TEVAULT

Chief Kirk Tevault started his career in law enforcement in June of 1988 at the Warrick County Sheriff's Office. During his 32-year career at the Warrick County Sheriff's Office, he had many roles. He served the county as a motor patrol deputy, K9 deputy, motor patrol sergeant, and he ended his career at the Warrick County Sheriff's Office as the

lieutenant of motor patrol. Once retired from the Warrick County Sheriff's Office, Chief Tevault began his career at the Chandler Police Department. Chief Tevault was sworn in as the Assistant Chief of Police in August 2020.



JORDAN CARR

Assistant Chief Jordan Carr started her law enforcement career with the Spencer County Sheriff's Office where she was a motor patrol deputy. She was a graduate of the 224th class of the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. She was hired at the Chandler Police Department in December of 2021.

Since then, Assistant Chief Carr has shown great leadership skills and dedication to this department. She is currently a field training officer, crisis intervention officer, and she is the evidence technician.



ALYSSA DEWIG

Alyssa DeWig, a University of Southern Indiana junior majoring in journalism, will serve as the Editor-in-Chief for *The Shield*, USI's independent student newspaper, for the 2023-24 academic year. As Editor-in-Chief, DeWig will be responsible for the overall operations of the media outlet. She will plan and conduct weekly editorial board

and budget meetings, determine the content of the website, social media channels, and email newsletter and meet with the Sales and Marketing Director to set editorial content and advertising goals. Prior to her appointment as Editor-in-Chief, DeWig has served as News Editor for *The Shield* since March 2022. She is also Lead Editor for Unmasked, a COVID-19 retrospective magazine published by *The Shield*. She was named Shieldster of the Month in September 2022. In addition to her work with *The Shield*, DeWig has been involved with the Psychology Club, serving as both Vice President (2020-21) and Co-President (2021-22). She was awarded the Engaged Student in Journalism award from the USI College of Liberal Arts Media and Communications Department in 2023.

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The Evansville Regional Economic Partnership is excited to welcome the Governor of Indiana, Eric Holcomb, to the Evansville Regional business community for its annual "Lunch with the Governor" signature event. Join business and community leaders in a discussion with Governor Holcomb as he outlines his 2023 ideas, plans, projects, and priorities for Hoosiers; and how to make Indiana the best place to live, work, study, play and stay. As a lifelong basketball fan, Holcomb has made a basket in each of Indiana's 92 counties. Appropriately, our exciting new change of scenery for 2023 - moving to the University of Southern Indiana's "Screaming Eagles Arena" should prove to be a "slam dunk" for this regional event.

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