Business Awards Gala

MARCH 12, 2020
SIUE Morris University Center Meridian Ballroom

6:00pm Doors Open
6:30pm Dinner Served
7:30pm Awards Program

BUSINESS BUILDS:
Economies. Leaders. Communities.
**2020 Officers**

**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**
Sam Guarino, Partner
Bella Milano Restaurants

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Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

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Eric Gowan, President
Contegra Construction Company, LLC

Lisa Klaustermeier, Chief Nursing Officer
Anderson Hospital

Matt Pfund, Owner
Pfund Construction

Bruce Riedle, CPA, Treasurer
R.P. Lumber Co., Inc. & Plummer Companies

**Chamber Staff**
Desirée Bennyhoff, IOM, ACE
President & CEO
ceo@edglenchamber.com

Katie Haas
Membership Director
membership@edglenchamber.com

Kathy Hentz
Administrative Assistant
office@edglenchamber.com

**Vision**
The Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce will be the preferred provider of watch-dog, education and advocacy services that form a mission-critical catalyst for business success.

**Mission**
The Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce is a member-driven organization, dedicated to a strong, private sector regional economy.

**Guiding Principles**
Chambers of Commerce honor and respect capitalism and well-informed private sector job creators as a central and foundational element of regional and national prosperity. Chambers of Commerce actively facilitate collaboration and open discussion between business and public officials through education, business advocacy and leadership.

**2020 Ambassadors**
Duston Bahorich, Associated Bank
Brendan Barone, Kunkel Whittenauer Group
Jeremy Colton, Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More
Alissa Fuhrmann, American Cancer Society
Paul Guse, Edwardsville Gun Club
Jasmine Kumar, TownePlace Suites
Kristen Pfund, Pfund Construction Company

Tina Kassing Meurer, West & Company
Rob Pickerell, Edwardsville Bank
Mary Jo Smith, Hospice of Southern Illinois
Ashleigh Teasley, Express Employment Professionals
Angela Warren, Town and Country Bank
Walter Williams, City of Edwardsville
Lisa Ybarra, Chava’s Mexican Restaurant

**on the cover**

**2020 Annual Business Awards Gala: Thursday, March 12**

The Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce’s Annual Business Awards Gala will take place Thursday, March 12 in SIUE’s Meridian Ballroom with the theme ‘BUSINESS BUILDS: Economies. Leaders. Communities.’ This gala is the highlight of the chamber’s year – an opportunity to celebrate our achievements and our vibrant business community. The gala/auction is one of two major fundraisers and social events sponsored by the chamber.

The Ed/Glen Chamber will present awards to members of our community at the dinner: the Albert Cassens Award for Outstanding Community Achievement, the Tallerico Leadership Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award. The Business of the Year award will also be presented.

Sponsorship and award nomination forms have been mailed to all Ed/Glen Chamber members and are also available online at www.edglenchamber.com. All sponsorships are due by March 5, 2020 in order to be included in event print materials.

“As executive director of Soup-n-Share Outreach Program, I believe our relationship with the Ed/Glen Chamber raises the visibility of our mission, which is to eliminate hunger in our community and surrounding areas by distributing food to families who need assistance, offer free clothing, and provide educational resources to individuals who are in need. The chamber’s marketing services connect us with other community leaders and provide access to volunteers. I’m proud of the services we provide to the families in the Metro East region and appreciate the chamber for helping to raise awareness of our impact. I highly value their support of our organization.”

SHERRIE M. HARE
Soap-n-Share Outreach Program
The newly connected

AirMedCare Network  
Air Evac Lifeteam  
Mark Burris  
Helicopter Rescue  
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618-980-9731  
www.amcnrep.com/mark-burris

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Mobility, TV & Internet Services  
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618-659-2103  
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Edwardsville, IL 62025  
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www.vivalafiestaedwardsville.com

Working Spaces  
Heather Budwell  
Office Furniture Dealership  
11642 Page Service Road  
St. Louis, MO 63146  
314-213-0561  
www.wspaces.com

2/19  Wed  10am  
Ribbon Cutting  
Lion’s Choice  
2384 Troy Road  
Edwardsville, IL 62025

2/20  Thu  5–7pm  
Business After 5  
YCG Accounting  
240 South Buchanan Street  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

2/27  Thu  10-11:30am  
Healthcare Industry Roundtable  
Cedarhurst – Ruth’s House  
7325 Marine Road  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

3/12  Thu  5pm  
Annual Business Awards Gala  
Morris University Center  
Meridian Ballroom  
SIUE Campus  
Edwardsville, IL 62026  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

3/17  Tue  12–1pm  
nexus@noon: Leaders  
Never Split the Difference  
by Chris Voss  
Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS Conference Room  
10 Ginger Creek Parkway  
Glen Carbon, IL 60034  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

3/19  Thu  5–7pm  
Business After 5  
FCB Bank  
6659 Center Grove Road  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

3/25  Wed  8–9am  
ACCELERATE  
Executive-Led Presentation  
w/ Amazon Fulfillment Center  
GM Steve Gilbertson  
TownePlace Suites  
6101 Center Grove Road  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

4/1  Wed  4:30pm  
Ribbon Cutting  
Edwardsville Bank  
209 East Schwarz Street  
Edwardsville, IL 62025

4/16  Thu  7:30-9am  
Mayors’ Legislative Breakfast  
N.O. Nelson Leclaire Room  
600 Troy Road  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

4/16  Thu  5–7pm  
Business After 5  
The Autism Clinic at Hope  
115 Rottingham Court  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

4/21  Tue  12–1pm  
nexus@noon: Leaders  
Never Split the Difference  
by Chris Voss  
Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS Conference Room  
10 Ginger Creek Parkway  
Glen Carbon, IL 60034  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

4/29  Wed  8–9am  
ACCELERATE  
Executive-Led Presentation  
w/ Pfund Construction  
Owners Matt & Kristen Pfund  
TownePlace Suites  
6101 Center Grove Road  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
RSVP at edglenchamber.com

The Ed/Glen Chamber offers a full menu of high-visibility sponsorship opportunities. As you begin planning your 2020 budget, please contact us to learn about our variety of options designed to fit your marketing and community investment budgets. Call 618-656-7600 or email membership@edglenchamber.com to learn more.

Membership renewal notices were mailed in early January. We appreciate your prompt payment so we may continue serving you – WE ♥ OUR MEMBERS!
2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce was proud to...

Advocate on Your Behalf

- Coordinated exclusive events to connect members with local, state and federal elected officials.
- Promoted a legislative agenda that prioritizes business interests.
- Participated in 179 public policy meetings to represent your voice.
- Provided 7,000+ business alerts to keep you informed on key issues impacting business.
- Served on local, state and national advisory boards to advance business-friendly legislation.

Promote Your Growth

- Hosted 36 ribbon cutting, ground breaking, and milestone anniversary ceremonies.
- Offered 67 member-focused events and programs that gathered more than 2,100 business leaders.
- Recognized eight Business of the Month recipients.
- Highlighted member activity to 5,707 Facebook fans and 1,215 Twitter followers.
- Shared member news in 8,195 newsletters.

Facilitate Key Connections

- Provided B2B and B2C member referral services to callers and visitors seeking specific products and services.
- Facilitated six educational ‘book club’ sessions and hosted six executive-led presentations.
- Welcomed 53 new members.
- Promoted job openings to more than 1,900 job-seekers from across the region.
- Highlighted your business to more than 2.1 million website visitors.

2020: Goals in Action – Next Year, We Strive To...

- Support pro-business legislation and candidates.
- Advocate for a pro-growth tax code, zoning and regulations.
- Demand taxation accountability and focus on health of regional economy.
- Enhance member visibility on our website and social media outlets.
- Refresh and innovate programs and services to ensure value and relevance.
- Further personalize the membership experience to better serve you.


The Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce is a private, membership-driven corporation dedicated to a strong, private-sector regional economy.

© 2020 Ed/Glen Chamber
We would like to recognize the many Ed/Glen Chamber investors who are celebrating membership anniversaries in the month of January. This monthly feature spotlights members for their ongoing support of the Ed/Glen Chamber. We offer our sincerest thanks to each of the following business for their continued membership!

40+ YEARS
Coldwell Banker Brown Realtors
Richards Brick Company
Village of Glen Carbon

20–29 YEARS
Ameren Illinois Utilities
Sunset Hills Country Club
Meridian Village

10–19 YEARS
GCS Credit Union
Bank of Springfield
St. Louis Regional Chamber
Walmart of Glen Carbon
Office Source

5–9 YEARS
EdwardsvilleOnline
Network Specialists, LLC
Thompson & Lengacher, P.C.
Robert ‘Chick’ Fritz, Inc.
Integrated Technology Associates
MassageLuXe
Stillwater Senior Living
AAA Swing City Music

1–4 YEARS
Allen Insurance Group, LLC
Cabinet Solutions
Security Finance
Orion Commercial Properties, LLC
Individual Member
J.S. Excavating & Hauling, LLC

HSHS Medical Group
Alzheimer’s Association - St. Louis Chapter
Gucciardo CPAs P.C.
Clean Eatz Edwardsville
Informationworks

Midwest Engineering Company, LLC DBA Marschke Engineering
Plum Creek Printing Company
The Reserve
Early Explorations, Inc.
State Farm Insurance - Christina Reynolds
Go from Ouch... to Ahhhhh!

Come and let our knowledgeable staff turn Ouch to Ahhhhh!

Allison's Comfort Shoes & Boots

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Glen Carbon, IL 62034
618-288-9297

Custom Orthotics Made in House!

Monday - Friday 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sunday Closed

Edwardsville | Glen Carbon

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Edwardsville, IL  Belleville, IL  Nashville, IL  St. Louis, MO  Perryville, MO

WWW.MMRLTD.COM
2020 ACCELERATE Speaker Schedule

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

The Logistics Of Leadership
As general manager for the Amazon Fulfillment Center in Edwardsville and a U.S. Army veteran, Steve Gilbertson understands strategy, systems and the logistics of great leadership. Learn how to recognize pivotal points in your professional journey as he shares insights, lessons and tactics that have been successful along the way.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

The Power Of Community Investment
A key component to building customer loyalty in any industry is community investment. Matt and Kristen Pfund choose to contribute to the Edwardsville community in a variety of ways. From volunteer service to restoration projects, learn how the commitment to give back can bring new life to your local economy.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

The Impact Of Branding
With more than 35 years in the marketing industry, BAM Marketing Agent President Bonni Burns realizes the keys to successful branding – creating a powerful connection between you and those you serve. Learn about corporate and personal brands, components of a solid brand identity, and when it’s time to re-brand.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Building Successful Community Collaborations
Workplace projects of all shapes and sizes often require collaboration. A key to successful collaborative outcomes is effective management. Chancellor Randy Pembrook will highlight some necessary components of building successful collaborations, including examples of how SIUE has achieved this by working with community partners.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Exploring Growth & Expansion
While growth and expansion are common business goals, the path can be challenging to navigate. Anderson Healthcare President & CEO Keith Page will share insights on selecting projects based on community need, targeting growth areas using data analytics and maintaining service quality for the duration of the expansion process.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

The Journey Of A Small Business Owner
As Chef's Shoppe Gourmet Candy Store owner for nearly two decades, Nancy Schneider has myriad experience to inspire the entrepreneurial spirit in all. From acquiring a budding concept to navigating multiple expansions, Nancy knows how to manage a dedicated team and foster the spirit needed to face the challenges of today's economy.

Each Session Held From 8-9AM
TownePlace Suites by Marriott
6101 Center Grove Road in Edwardsville

For more information on ACCELERATE, contact the Ed/Glen Chamber at 618.656.7600 or go to edglenchamber.com/accelerate.
Business Awards Gala – March 12, 2020

RSVP by March 5

BUSINESS BUILDS:
Economies. Leaders. Communities.

Chamber Member:  
___ Dinner Seats at $75 Each  
___ VIP Reception + Dinner Seats at $100 Each

Chamber Guest:  
___ Dinner Seats at $90 Each  
___ VIP Reception + Dinner Seats at $125 Each

Please return response card with your payment to the chamber office by Thursday, March 5.
### SPONSORSHIP FORM

**BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION**

**CONTACT PERSON**

**MAILING ADDRESS**

**PHONE NUMBER**

**EMAIL ADDRESS**

We would like to sponsor at the _______________ Level at $ ________________

Please return with check by March 5, with check payable to:

Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce
1 North Research Drive
Edwardsville, IL 62025

phone: 618.656.7600  fax: 618.656.7611

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPONSOR LEVEL</th>
<th>Sponsors</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRESENTING Sponsor: $2,500</strong></td>
<td>Opportunity to showcase, special recognition, &amp; brief remarks during VIP reception</td>
<td>Featured in VIP video + CATHALYST sponsor perks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CATALYST Sponsor: $2,000</strong></td>
<td>Complimentary premium seating for eight</td>
<td>Featured in highlight video</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Invitation to attend pre-gala VIP reception</td>
<td>Company provided with attendee list</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High visibility 2’x3’ branded signage provided by chamber + tabletop signage</td>
<td>Company recognized from the podium &amp; in PowerPoint presentation</td>
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<td>Full page color ad in event program &amp; chamber newsletter</td>
<td>Social media &amp; website promotion</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PARTNER Sponsor: $1,500</strong></td>
<td>Complimentary premium seating for six</td>
<td>Featured in highlight video</td>
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<td>Invitation to attend pre-gala VIP reception</td>
<td>Company provided with attendee list</td>
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<td>Branded tabletop signage</td>
<td>Company recognized from the podium &amp; in PowerPoint presentation</td>
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<td>1/2 page color ad in event program &amp; chamber newsletter</td>
<td>Social media &amp; website promotion</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INVESTOR Sponsor: $1,000</strong></td>
<td>Complimentary premium seating for four</td>
<td>Featured in highlight video</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Invitation to attend pre-gala VIP reception</td>
<td>Company provided with attendee list</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Recognition in PowerPoint presentation &amp; in event program</td>
<td>Invitation to attend pre-gala VIP reception</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1/4 page color ad in event program &amp; chamber newsletter</td>
<td>Social media &amp; website promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COLLABORATOR Sponsor: $500</strong></td>
<td>Complimentary premium seating for two</td>
<td>Branded tabletop signage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Recognition in event program</td>
<td>Company recognized from the podium &amp; in PowerPoint presentation</td>
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<td>1/8 page color ad in event program &amp; chamber newsletter</td>
<td>Social media &amp; website promotion</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>CONNECTOR Sponsor: $250</strong></td>
<td>Recognition in event program</td>
<td>Social media &amp; website promotion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Call 618.656.7600 to secure your sponsorship.

To be recognized in the program booklet & PowerPoint presentation, confirmation of sponsorship must be received by MARCH 5.
engage

business after 5

December 19: First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville

December 19: First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville

December 19: First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville

December 19: First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville

December 19: First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville

December 19: First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville
December 12: Arch View Family Dental

nexus@noon 2020 SERIES

NOON-1PM
MAR 17  AUG 18
APR 21  SEP 15
MAY 19  OCT 20
BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

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*1 share deposit required. Must qualify for membership. Federally insured by NCUA.

Proud supporter of SIUE Athletics
Ameren Illinois Grant Provides Needed Assistance To SIUE’s WSIE FM Radio

Ameren Illinois demonstrated its goal towards community mindedness by giving Southern Illinois University Edwardsville’s WSIE 88.7 FM The Sound a $2,000 grant.

Partly, the electric company’s mission is to enhance the quality of life in the communities they serve, according to Ameren officials. WSIE is a non-commercial, education-focused radio station, broadcasting at 50,000 watts on the campus of SIUE and reaching most of the Greater St. Louis region. In the past, WSIE enjoyed state support to help offset costs, but after July 1, 2018, that stipend was discontinued because of the former Illinois budget crisis.

Now, the station is reliant on underwriting partners and donations from listeners, as well as grants and corporate donations.

“WSIE not only offers a nice lifestyle amenity for residents in the region, but also the broadcasters who graduate from their program will one day be delivering the news about topics of importance to our customers,” said Vice President of Electric Operations George Justice and fan of the station. “We’re proud to provide resources to help the station continue its good work in the Greater St. Louis area.”

88.7, The Sound, is a non-commercial station delivering jazz, smooth jazz, blues and R&B.

Reaching greater St. Louis and the Metro East with a powerful 50,000 watt signal, as well as streaming worldwide from wsie.com

We are in your community, located at SIUE in Edwardsville, Ill. Let us show you a cost effective way to get your business’ information to our unique audience.
We’re BIG on SMALL BUSINESS

More than 28 million small businesses in the United States create nearly two of every three jobs in our economy. Our nation’s progress is driven by these pioneers who think big, take risks and work hard. From storefront shops to high-tech startups that keep America on the cutting edge, small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the cornerstone of our nation’s promise. We salute our region’s small businesses. We’re here to support you.

VISIBILITY
Stand out and get noticed in the community:
• Receive referrals to customers who are looking for what you offer – 24/7/365.
• Nearly 65,000 visitors searched the chamber’s website for info, events & jobs in 2019.
• More than 50 ribbon cuttings and business celebrations created member awareness.

Chamber’s online directory receives more than 2.1 million views annually.

Ed/Glen Chamber members represent 45 communities in the St. Louis MSA and beyond.

CONNECTIONS
It’s not just who you know, it’s who others know:
• Industry roundtables offer solutions, recommendations, and peer support.
• Business polls and surveys invite members to weigh in on key issues.
• Follow us on social media networks where we share member information, posts and news.

Consumers are more aware of and likely to do business with chamber members.

CREDIBILITY
Raise your reputation through membership:
• 80% of consumers will increase future patronage of a chamber member.
• 2/3 of consumers believe your membership means you employ good business practices.
• The chamber provides introductions and connections for you and your employees.

The chamber offered nearly 175 unique programs and services for members in 2019.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
Gain a competitive edge:
• Chamber Q&A sessions offer insights on how you can best maximize your benefits.
• Meet elected officials and hear how legislation can affect your business.
• Join ACCELERATE to hear from local executives what makes the region great for business.

The chamber had 319 public policy engagements in 2019.

ADVOCACY
Chamber is voice of business, gain a say in government:
• Chamber monitors more than 100 pieces of legislation to support your business.
• Business Builds PAC supports pro-business legislation and a strong regional economy.
• Local and state candidate questionnaires published to educate members.

Consumers are more aware of and likely to do business with chamber members.

It’s not just who you know, it’s who others know:
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• Business polls and surveys invite members to weigh in on key issues.
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EDWARDVILLE | GLEN CARBON Chamber of Commerce

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Anderson Hospital Auxiliary Presents Annual Donation

Anderson Hospital Auxiliary presented Anderson Hospital President & CEO, Keith Page (center in photo) with its annual donation to the hospital during the auxiliary’s annual meeting held mid-January. The donation, which reflects funds raised in 2019, totaled $76,000. This annual donation is made possible through the auxiliary gift shop, medical alert service, fundraising events, vending machine sales, and the newborn photos program.

The auxiliary has more than 200 active members and is an integral part of Anderson Hospital. Volunteers gave nearly 40,000 hours of service to Anderson Hospital in 2019.

Active volunteers provide direct services to the emergency, obstetrics and outpatient surgery departments, as well as being ‘on call’ from the volunteer office. They manage information desks at public entrances including those at the cancer wellness centers. Volunteers are the sole proprietors of the hospital’s gift shop, responsible for managing staff, purchasing inventory, and inventory management.

“The Auxiliary remains as dedicated and instrumental as ever in the continuing operation of Anderson Hospital,” said Keith Page, Anderson Hospital president. “We thank them for their many hours of service and commitment to making a difference in Anderson Hospital.”
The Gori Law Firm Opens New Office In Granite City

The Gori Law Firm has expanded its practice with an office at 2862 Madison Avenue, Granite City.

“We have a large number of clients in the Granite City area, so it makes sense to open a new location for their convenience,” said Sara Salger, managing partner of The Gori Law Firm. “We also have a tremendously skilled team of attorneys who constantly strive to bring results to those suffering as a result of asbestos exposure, flooding, medical malpractice, and workplace injuries. With the addition of this new location, we are even better suited to accomplish that goal.”

Since its inception in 2008 in Edwardsville, The Gori Law Firm has grown and continues to seek opportunities to expand. Although the Granite City location is currently open for appointments only, it will be staffed in the near future.

“Our plans to open this office have been in the works for several months as a way to better serve the residents of Granite City who are in need of our services,” said Chris Layloff, partner at The Gori Law Firm. “Along with myself, my colleagues Mr. Ron Motil and Ms. Tonya Genovese are residents of Granite City, so we all have a strong connection to the community and its residents.”

In addition to the expansion announcement, two of the firm’s partners, Chris Layloff and Jason Steinmeyer, have been honored for obtaining the highest reported asbestos verdict in Missouri for 2019, according to Missouri Lawyer’s Weekly. Layloff and Steinmeyer obtained an $8.433 million verdict against the Ford Motor Co. for their clients, Al and Pam Bennett. Layloff and Steinmeyer were recently honored at the Missouri Lawyers Awards 2020 in St. Louis by Missouri Lawyers Media.

“While we appreciate being recognized for our work, we’re just happy that we were able to get justice for Al and Pam,” said Chris Layloff, partner at The Gori Law Firm. Steinmeyer added, “Chris and I, along with everyone at our firm, fight hard for our clients. Justice was delivered, and the recognition for a ‘job well done’ is just an added bonus.”
Edwardsville Bank Welcomes Familiar Faces & Longtime Bankers To Team

Edwardsville Bank recently today the hiring of seasoned bankers Brian Simmons and Tom Baird as the branch manager and vice president of business development, respectively.

Simmons will manage the branch and its day to day operations. He and his team will work to provide customers with tailored solutions to their financial needs. Baird will continue helping clients with all of their banking needs, as he has done for nearly 38 years.

Most recently, Simmons served as the branch manager and assistant vice president of US Bank in Edwardsville for 13 years, where he was honored with their annual Pinnacle Award numerous times. Prior to US Bank, Brian spent seven years as a Branch manager at American General Financial Services. Simmons received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Managerial Finance from the University of Mississippi.

Baird was previously with TheBANK of Edwardsville and is deeply rooted in the community. He is a lifelong resident of Edwardsville/Glen Carbon and attended SIUE. He is an Edwardsville YMCA board member, past board member of the Edwardsville Jaycees, past board member and treasurer of New Opportunities Inc., and a Friends of Scouting volunteer for many years.

Justin Huneke, Metro East community president of Edwardsville Bank, states, “Both Brian and Tom are huge assets to the bank. They are both exceptional bankers in the community, they both have great reputations and are highly respected by their clients. Brian and Tom are Edwardsville champions through and through.”

Both Simmons and Baird are long-time Metro East residents and know the community well. Working in Edwardsville, they understand the local economy and culture. With Simmons and Baird on board, you can find comfort in walking into Edwardsville Bank, where you will be treated like an old friend.

Edwardsville Bank is a division of Saint Louis Bank and will open its doors in downtown Edwardsville, located at 209 East Schwarz Street 62025. Edwardsville Bank is slated to open in March of 2020.

Beer Of The Month

February

Früli Strawberry Beer

Availability: Bottles, Draught
Früli is a high quality Strawberry Belgian fruit beer, produced at a craft brewery near Ghent. It is a unique blend of white beer and strawberry juice packed with strawberry fruit flavour. The juice complements the zestiness of the wheat beer and the result is a balanced, natural and refreshing drink that is simply delicious!

ABV= 4.1%

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Associated Banc-Corp and First Staunton Bancshares Inc. in mid-2019 announced they have entered into a definitive merger agreement under which First Staunton will be acquired by Associated. First Staunton’s subsidiary, The First National Bank in Staunton, will also merge with Associated’s bank subsidiary, Associated Bank, N.A. The all cash transaction is valued at approximately $76.3 million, and the merger is expected to close in the first quarter of 2020.

Associated and The First National Bank in Staunton share a proud heritage of serving Midwest communities since 1861 and 1934, respectively. Based in Green Bay, Associated Bank N.A. is the largest bank headquartered in Wisconsin. It serves more than one million customers in 120 communities across eight states. First National Bank in Staunton serves more than 30,000 customers in the Metro East region of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area. As a result of this transaction, Associated will strengthen its Illinois network and expand services into additional communities.

“We have great respect for First National Bank in Staunton and their commitment to providing quality financial services to their customers. Both of our organizations are built around customer-centric strategies and understand the importance of delivering increasing value to both the customers and the communities we serve,” said Associated’s President & CEO Philip Flynn. “This acquisition provides the opportunity to increase our Illinois presence and improve the scale of our operations. This ultimately positions us to make further investments in the St. Louis metro market and deliver increased network value to our customers and shareholders.”

“I believe our organizations possess a shared appreciation of the needs and goals of our communities,” said First Staunton chairperson Celeste Hardnock. “I am confident the merger will bring added conveniences, products and services to our customers.”

Upon consummation of the merger, First National Bank in Staunton’s chief operations officer and director Gina Lotter and chief lending officer Brian Ury will join Associated Bank. In their new roles, they will focus on client retention and employee engagement while also serving as ambassadors for the bank’s community involvement.
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