January 2020





Edwardsville I Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

Business Builds: Economies. Leaders. Communities.

# **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.** 

PRST STD U.S.POSTAGE PAID EDWARDSVILLE, IL PERMIT # 29

# connect

#### 2020 Officers

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

PAST CHAIRMAN **Cathy Hamilton**, Broker
BARBERMurphy Group

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West & Company, LLC

LEGAL COUNSEL **Mike Schag**, Shareholder Heyl Royster

CORPORATE SECRETARY **Desirée Bennyhoff, IOM, ACE**, President & CEO
Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

#### **2020 Directors**

**Jonathan Fowler**, Vice President J.F. Electric

**Eric Gowin**, 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.

## 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.

### **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 CustomT-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
AshleighTeasley, Express Employment Professionals
Angela Warren, Town and Country Bank
Walter Williams, City of Edwardsville
Lisa Ybarra, Chava's Mexican Restaurant

"As executive director of Soupn-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
Soup-n-Share Outreach Program

# the newly connected save the date

#### AirMedCare Network Air Evac Lifeteam

Mark Burris Helicopter Rescue 2181 Vadalabene Drive Maryville, IL 62062 618-980-9731 www.amcnrep.com/mark-burris

#### AT&T

Nick Talick Mobility, TV & Internet Services 6697 Center Grove Road Edwardsville, II 62025 618-659-2103 www.att.com

#### **COUNTRY Financial**

Carol Stolze Personal & Commercial Insurance, Mutual Funds & 401K Plans 105 South Pointe Edwardsville, IL 62025 618-656-5037 www.countryfinancial.com/ carol.stolze

#### **Dieterich Bank**

Nikki Bloemer Banking & Financial Institution 5 Club Centre Court Edwardsville, IL 62025 217-540-1961 www.dieterichbank.com

#### **Goff & Dittman Florists**

Rachel Clothier Florist, Flower Delivery. Gifts & Memorials 1411 Troy Road, Suite A Edwardsville, IL 62025 618-307-9056 www.goffdittmanflorist.com

#### **JewelRide**

Tapiwa Mupereki Reliable, Trustworthy & Affordable Non-Emergency Medical **Transportation** 30 Devon Court, Unit 1 Edwardsville, IL 62025 618-250-4771 www.jewelride.com

#### Viva La Fiesta **Mexican Restaurant**

Caty Passia Hot. Fresh. Homemade Authentic Mexican Cuisine 1027 Century Drive Edwardsville, IL 62025 618-692-5522 www.vivalafiestaedwardsville.com

#### **Working Spaces**

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

#### 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 62034 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

#### 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

#### Tue 12-1pm 4/21 nexus@noon: Leaders Never Split the Difference by Chris Voss

Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS Conference Room 10 Ginger Creek Parkway Glen Carbon, IL 62034 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

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 memberfocused 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 new 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.
- $\checkmark$

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.

BUSINESS BUILDS: Economies. Leaders. Communities.



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

# connect

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

Casual Tees
Annie's Frozen Custard
Baha'i Faith
Salvation Army
Patriot Sunrooms

## **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

Cedarhurst Assisted Living & Memory Care
Partners For Pets
CareLink of Metro East
Recess Brewing
Rickey Brothers, Inc.
Associated Bank
Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More

## 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





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Associates Natalie T. Lorenz Colin C. Clark Melissa C. Meirink Amy C. Randazzo Allyson T. Schwab Chad J. Richter

Of Counsel Charles M. Lock Barry D. Dix Clyde L. Kuehn



# 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 Brandina

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



Edwardsville I Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

# **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
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION_	
CONTACT PERSON	
MAILING ADDRESS	
	EMAIL ADDRESS
BILL ME: I am enclosing a check for \$	
Please return response card with your payment	

to the chamber office by Thursday, March 5.

8 | Common Ground January 2020

PRESENTING Sponsor: \$2,500
Opportunity to showcase, special recognition, & brief remarks during VIP reception Featured in VIP video + CATALYST sponsor perks

# CATALYST Sponsor: \$2,000 Complimentary premium seating for eight Featured in highlight video

Invitation to attend pre-gala VIP reception

Company provided with attendee list
High visibility 2'x3' branded signage provided by chamber + tabletop signage
Company recognized from the podium & in PowerPoint presentation
Full page color ad in event program & chamber newsletter
Social media & website promotion

# PARTNER Sponsor: \$1,500 Complimentary premium seating for six Invitation to attend pre-gala VIP reception

Company provided with attendee list Branded tabletop signage

Company recognized from the podium & in PowerPoint presentation

1/2 page color ad in event program & chamber newsletter

# INVESTOR Sponsor: \$1,000 Complimentary premium seating for four Invitation to attend pre-gala VIP reception

Recognition in PowerPoint presentation & in event program 1/4 page color ad in event program & chamber newsletter Social media & website promotion

COLLABORATOR Sponsor: \$500

Complimentary premium seating for two
Recognition in event program

1/8 page color ad in event program & chamber newsletter
Social media & website promotion

We would like to sponsor at the \_\_\_\_

CONNECTOR Sponsor: \$250
Recognition in event program
Social media & website promotion

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.



Edwardsville | Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

# SPONSORSHIP FORM

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT PERSON

MAILING ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ 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

# 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



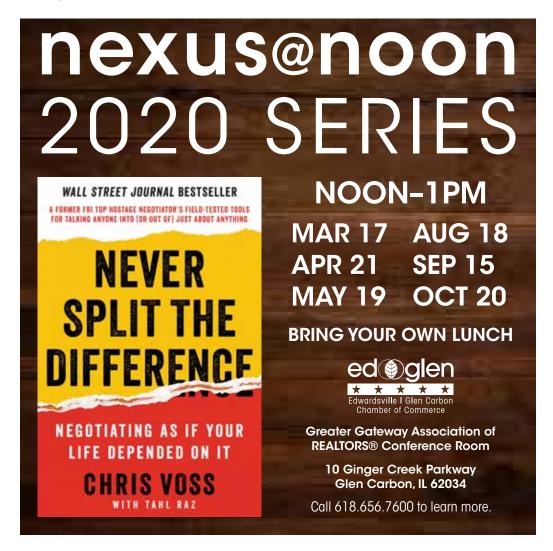
December 19: First Presbyterian Church Edwardsville

# ribbon cuttings





**December 12: Arch View Family Dental** 



# Your Hometown Financial Institution



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#### 8 ILLINOIS LOCATIONS

Belleville Walmart • Collinsville Walmart
Fairview Heights • Glen Carbon • Glen Carbon Walmart
Godfrey Walmart • Granite City Walmart • Waterloo



Proud supporter of SIUE Athletics



# your business

# 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.

"This heritage station is loved by many, and this donation from Ameren Illinois will help us as we continue to work on funding our operation costs," said WSIE General Manager Jason Church. "Gifts like this are necessary in order to help us continue to provide quality jazz and jazz-centric programming, as well as offering the opportunities for students to get real world experience with a professional radio station."

"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."



Call Stephanie Lewis at 618-650-2228 or email stlewis@siue.edu

EDWARDSVILLE

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
BIGons

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.

# SMALL BUSINESS

## **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.

## **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.

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

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.

## **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.

The chamber had 319 public policy engagements in 2019.



# Anderson Hospital Auxiliary Presents Annual Donation

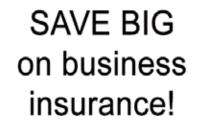
Anderson Hospital Auxiliary presented Anderson Hospital President & CEO, Keith Page (center or photo) with its annual donation to the hospital during the auxiliary's annual meeting held mid-January. The donation, which reflects funds raised in 2019, totaled \$76,000. This annual donation is made possible 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."





We are pleased to offer special discount rates on business insurance to members of the Edwardsville Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce.

Call today for more information!



618.656.0120

C. William Schmidt Matt Rogier, CIC



Auto-Owners





# your business

## 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. B 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 president 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.



# your business

## **Associated Bank & First Staunton Merger Nearing Closure**

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.

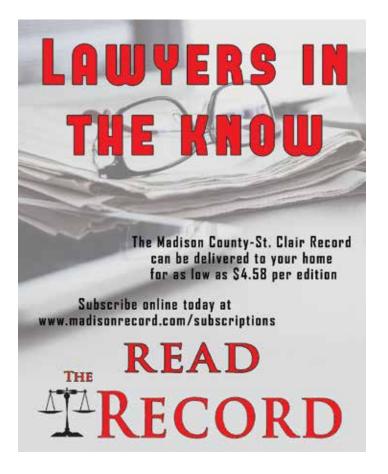
Associated and The First National Bank in Staunton share a proud heritage of serving Midwest communities since 1861 and 1934, respectively. Based in Green Bay, Associated Bank N.A. is the largest bank headquartered in Wisconsin. It serves more than one million customers in 120 communities across eight 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.





# gov. affairs





# CHAMBER DAY 2020

Tome in, we re

STRONGER BUSINESS STRONGER ILLINOIS

MARCH 18 PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN SPRINGFIELD A DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON HOTE 107 E. ADAMS | SPRINGFIELD, IL

### **TOPICS INCLUDE:**

Progressive Income Tax **Energy Legislation** Minimum Wage Paid Sick Leave Federal Affairs Property Tax Reform

**RSVP TO: Callie Brenden** 

Phone: 217-522-5512 ext. 224 Email: cbrenden@ilchamber.org

Special Note: Governor Pritzker & Legislative Leaders Have Been Invited

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