Enjoy a business casual lunch, celebrate the successes of 2016, and learn what the Ed/Glen Chamber has planned for 2017.
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BARBERMurphy Group
Sam Guarino, Vice Chair
Bella Milano Restaurants
Josh Lowe, Treasurer
West & Company, LLC
Philip Lading, Legal Counsel
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Elizabeth Heil
Scheffel Boyle
Gary Hoggatt, Jr.
1st MidAmerica Credit Union
Lisa Klaustermeyer
Anderson Hospital
Dave Vixx
Advantage Insurance Group, Inc.

Chamber Staff
Desirée Bennyhoff
President & CEO
ceo@edglenchamber.com

Kerry Smith
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.

2016 Ambassadors
Breck Newman, HireLevel
Lisa Allen, Allen Insurance Group
Jeremy Colton, Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More
James DeMolain, First Clover Leaf Bank
David Janes, Scott Credit Union
Amanda Linton, Northwestern Mutual
Tim Mahnesmith, Edward Jones Investments

Rob Pickerell, Midwest Regional Bank*
Kai Redmon, Redmon Insurance Agency
Sara Sanderson, Dimond Bros. Insurance
John Schuelke, Merrill Lynch
Mary Jo Smith, Hospice of Southern Illinois
Walter Williams, City of Edwardsville

* denotes committee chair

2017 Membership Meeting & Luncheon
Learn what your chamber of commerce has planned for 2017 at the 7th Annual Membership Meeting & Luncheon, scheduled for 11:30am-1pm Friday, January 27 in the Leclaire Room on the N.O. Nelson campus of Lewis and Clark Community College. In 2013, Edwardville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce leadership had the great pleasure of working with retired business executive Robert McClellan to craft a new strategic plan, which included adopting new mission and vision statements, guiding principles, and core values.

2017 will be dedicated to further implementing strategic change and continued progress for the Ed/Glen Chamber, including working toward U.S. Chamber of Commerce Accreditation.

We hope you will attend the Annual Membership Meeting & Luncheon to help us kick off 2017 with the unveiling of our annual plan of work. This business casual luncheon is an opportunity for members to become familiar with the Ed/Glen Chamber’s 2017 menu of services, and celebrate the chamber’s 2016 accomplishments.
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business of the month

COMPANY HISTORY: Peel Wood Fired Pizza was founded in 2009 by owners Patrick Thirion and Brandon Case. Peel is a full service restaurant specializing in wood fired pizza. The owners’ goal is to provide an inviting atmosphere, unique menu, exceptional service, and made from scratch cooking that focuses on fresh ingredients. Peel Wood Fired Pizza is located at 921 South Arbor Vitae, Suite 101 in Edwardsville.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: One of Peel’s greatest economic impacts is the creation of more than 60 new jobs in the Edwardsville area. Besides job creation, the values and expectations Thirion and Case instill in their employees help to create hard working, dedicated employees who, when they leave Peel Wood Fired Pizza, are better prepared for life and their careers.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT: Peel Wood Fired Pizza contributes to 100s of charitable organizations each year. The majority of those contributions are kept local (e.g., Edwardsville Neighbors in Need) to have the largest impact on the community.

WORKFORCE COMMITMENT: Turnover in the food service industry is high. Thirion and Case are proud that a large number of their staff members have been with Peel Wood Fired Pizza for more than four years. Many employees work for Peel while they attend SIUE, and when they graduate and transition into their field of study they take with them a great work ethic and professionalism they learned through working at Peel Wood Fired Pizza.

INNOVATION: The Peel Wood Fired Pizza team strives for consistency every day. Thirion and Case are never complacent – the two are always trying new menu items, analyzing different ways to do things, and constantly adding new features to the restaurants. A recent innovation was the introduction of a loyalty rewards program, a way to give back to their customers who love supporting Peel.

EXCELLENCE: Peel Wood Fired Pizza has been honored with numerous awards for both best restaurant and best pizza. To name a couple, Peel has been named an ‘A-List Readers’ Choice’ poll recipient by St. Louis Magazine, and placed in the top three in a readers’ choice poll by Sauce Magazine.

CHARACTER: Thirion and Case strive for excellence each and every day. The key to their success is direct involvement in their restaurants – leading by example to create a staff that cares about the restaurants as much as they do. The two agree that their greatest accomplishment is their employees.

FUTURE FOCUS: The Peel Wood-Fired Pizza co-owners love being a part of the Edwardsville community. Thirion and Case hope for continued success of their award-winning Edwardsville location so they can maintain their track record of providing opportunities for employees to succeed.
Great BJC Doctors, right where you live.

Spine Surgeon at Christian Hospital

Dr. Ravindra Shitut has over 30 years of experience as a spine surgeon. He is board certified in spine surgery as well as orthopedic surgery and specializes in innovative minimally invasive spine surgeries and motion preservation techniques.

Dr. Shitut surgically treats many spinal conditions including:
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To schedule an appointment with Dr. Shitut or to learn more about the conditions he treats, please call his office at 314-953-8250.

“BJC Medical Group” generally refers to BJC Medical Group of Missouri, BJC Medical Group of Illinois and BJC Medical Group of Sullivan, all of which are well-established physician organizations.
We would like to recognize the many Ed/Glen Chamber investors who are celebrating membership anniversaries in the month of December. 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!

50+ YEARS
Buhrmester Paint & Wallpaper Inc.

10–19 YEARS
Flanigan Law Office
Mt. Joy Missionary Baptist Church
Boy Scouts of America Lewis & Clark Council
Edwardsville Arts Center

5–9 YEARS
Ed/Glen Habitat for Humanity
Hurford Architects, Inc.
Franzen Wealth Strategies, LLC
Joseph E. Meyer & Associates
Gerold Moving & Warehousing Company
Madison County Child Advocacy Center
St. John’s Community Care

1–4 YEARS
Watts Copy Systems
Trinity Services, Inc.
Batteries Plus Bulbs
Hotshots Sports Bar & Grill
Better Hearing Clinic, LLC
MorMat Electrical & Construction Services
KinderCare Learning Center

Banking Law Practiced by Real Professionals

Real-world experience. That is what distinguishes the banking law practice at Mathis, Marfian & Richter, Ltd. from many other law firms. As former bankers and Federal Reserve directors, our attorneys do not just practice banking law; they have hands-on experience in the day-to-day operations of banking institutions. From small community-based financial institutions to large multi-state banking organizations, our banking law services include:

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Donco Electrical Construction & Fowler Management Services, November 9

Brickman Orthodontics, November 10

Security Finance, November 16

Pinot's Palette, November 22
We’ve taken comfort to a whole new level.

Introducing...private patient rooms and our new Anderson Mercy Cancer Care services.

Welcome to Your Private Room
We’re excited to now offer private patient rooms so you can rest better and recover faster. Our private rooms offer a welcome retreat to patients seeking reduced noise, more rest and an increased level of comfort... at no additional cost.

Improved Cancer Care Services
We’ve partnered with Mercy St. Louis to bring a new level of clinical expertise to cancer patients in the metro east. AndersonMercy Cancer Care brings the best integrated, cancer care treatments close to home and family.
2017 Girl Scout Cookie Program Beginning Soon

The 2017 Girl Scout Cookie Program is here, and this year marks the celebration of 100 years of Girl Scouts selling cookies! Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois (GSSI) will kick off the iconic cookie program January 6–8 during the first ‘Cookie Booth Weekend’ of the season. At these cookie booths, customers can purchase cookies directly from troops set up at local establishments throughout southern Illinois. From January 7–28, Girl Scouts will take orders for the delicious treats, which will be delivered in late February. To connect with a Girl Scout in your area, call 800.345.6858 or go to http://bit.ly/CookieFinder.

One Of Illinois’ 21 Most Romantic Restaurants

Andria’s Countryside Restaurant was recently named one of Illinois’ 21 ‘Most Romantic Restaurants’ by OnlyInYourState.com. Andria’s is located at 7415 IL Route 143 in Edwardsville.

The article read: “If you love the idea of a cozy down-home atmosphere then you will love what Andria’s Countryside Restaurant has to offer with its five acres of wooded bliss at the edge of Edwardsville. Andria’s is the first restaurant in the country to be licensed to serve USDA prime-certified Angus beef. Provided by Niman Ranch in San Francisco, you can trust that the steak is hormone and antibiotic free. If vegetables are what’s for dinner, then you’ll enjoy the freshest of ingredients from their very own 500-square-foot garden. Start with the baked Brie cheese or crab-stuffed mushrooms before moving on to the Delmonico steak served with signature sauces like the Sophia sauce, which boasts sautéed shrimp and Portobello mushroom blanketed under a rich crab cognac cream sauce.”
Commemorative Bricks Available For Purchase

The city of Edwardsville’s ‘Better Place to Play’ campaign recently announced that commemorative bricks are now available for purchase to be displayed at the Leon Corlew Park & Splash Pad, located at 333 South Main Street near downtown Edwardsville. Leon Corlew Park opened this past summer to residents and visitors who enjoy the playground, walking trail and splash pad feature.

Katie Grable of the Edwardsville Parks & Recreation Department is excited about this new opportunity available to the community. “Being able to memorialize a loved one or honor your family or business name is a great way to create a lasting memory at the Leon Corlew Park.”

Bricks are available for $100 each. The personal message created on each brick will be a piece of the park’s history. Forms are currently available for download by visiting the betterplacetoplay.com website. You may also request a brick by calling Katie at 618.692.7538. The A Better Place to Play campaign partners with the Edwardsville Community Foundation so all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

GCS Donates 7,500 Pounds Of Food

GCS Credit Union collected 7,500 pounds of food in honor of their 75th anniversary. This year, GCS Credit Union proudly celebrates 75 years of service to over 35,000 members at eight branches across Southwestern Illinois. GCS Credit Union established the goal to collect 7,500 pounds of food as a way to give back to the community that has given so much to them. The collection that didn’t seem possible started in January of 2016. However, GCS Credit Union hit the goal and then some in December with a final donation from 102.5 KEZK. The canned goods were donated throughout the year to the Granite City Community Care Center, the O’Fallon Community Food Pantry, and the local steelworkers. Keith Burton, GCS Credit Union president, stated “I would like to take this opportunity to thank our members, employees, and directors who have worked with us to make the last 75 years a success. It has been an honor to serve the community since 1941 and we wouldn’t be anything without you – so thank you!”
West & Company, LLC Opens Champaign Office, Is Again Named G-400 Firm

West & Company, LLC has opened an office at 3121 Village Office Place, Champaign, Illinois. Seth T. Dixon, CPA has been named manager of the office.

The firm has again been designated a G-400 firm by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). There are approximately 45,000 CPA firms across the United States. The AICPA separates the top 500 firms into two groups. The 100 largest CPA firms are designated the G-100. The next largest 400 CPA firms are designated the G-400.

West & Company, LLC is a full service accounting firm with an emphasis in accounting and auditing, income tax preparation, bookkeeping and payroll services, employee benefit plan services, and estate and financial planning.

The firm was founded in 1968 and has grown to become a regional accounting firm with six offices and approximately 70 employees. Their offices are located in Champaign, Edwardsville, Mattoon, Effingham, Greenville and Sullivan.

Pictured L to R: Todd M. Shapiro, president of the Illinois CPA Society, Richard C. West, managing partner of West & Company, LLC, and Edward J. Dupke, representative of the AICPA.
Scott Credit Union Gives Nearly $1.5 Million Back To Members

Just in time for the holidays, area residents who have savings accounts or loans with Scott Credit Union realized the value of membership with a gift of extra money in their pockets. Scott Credit Union declared a bonus dividend and loan interest rebate in November, giving nearly $1.5 million back to members. The money was directly deposited into Scott Credit Union members’ accounts.

In addition to paying higher-than-market rates on its members’ accounts, Scott Credit Union has given active members an additional 3.00% Annual Percentage Yield bonus dividend on their deposits and a rebate of 3.00% of the interest they paid this year on any loan or credit card to thank them for their loyalty. Scott Credit Union continues to be a strong financially sound institution with growth in total membership to over 135,000 people.

“Since members own the credit union, this is a great way for us to thank them and share our success,” said Scott Credit Union President & CEO Frank Padak. “This is one of the benefits of being a member with accounts at Scott Credit Union. Since we are a not-for-profit cooperative, we give our earnings back to members through dividends, loan interest rebates, better rates on savings, lower rates on loans, lower fees and the most convenient services possible.”

Over the past eight years, Scott Credit Union has given bonus dividends and loan interest rebates back to members totaling over $9.2 million, Padak noted. “We have been able to issue a bonus dividend to our members for 25 consecutive years,” he added. “For the past 10 years we also were able to give the loan interest rebate. Our members are the reason we have been successful and it is nice to show them that active membership in our credit union is a good decision on their part.”

Padak said Scott Credit Union has positioned the organization to remain financially strong for its members and attractive to new members who are looking for the best value. “We are one of the premier lending institutions in the country and have exceptional programs for mortgages, auto loans and credit cards,” Padak added. “We also work very hard to be efficient so we can keep fees low and increase the overall value we offer our members.”
New Laws Impacting Business, Going Into Effect January 1, 2017

On January 1, 2017, 192 new laws will officially go into effect in Illinois. While the Illinois Chamber of Commerce was successful in 2016 to minimize legislation that was opposed by the Chamber, several pieces of legislation that pertain to the business community will go into effect on January 1. The following list provides a brief synopsis of each bill that goes into effect in the new year.

BUSINESS
SB 2743 (Harmon/Burke) bars yoga teacher training from state regulation as a business.

SB 2989 (Ollary/Hoffman) requires application forms for winery shipper's license to include all addresses from which applicant intends to ship wine, including third-party manufacturers. Licensee must include certain disclosures in application. Third-party providers must file with Liquor Control Commission, cannot appoint third-party provider that is in violation of law.

HB 6287 (Nekritz/Mulroe) provides that no eggs may be offered for sale for consumer use 45 days or more after candling (rather than after the original 30-day candling date). Extends the expiration date labeling requirement for grade A and AA eggs to no later than 45 days after candling.

DATA SECURITY: Gov. Rauner signed the data breach bill, HB 1260 (Williams/Biss), on May 6. The Illinois Chamber worked for two years on this bill, explaining the real impact on both businesses and consumers and helping to guide a workable solution. The original bill would have placed onerous, costly requirements on businesses that would have done little if anything to help consumers. The final language will help consumers, yet not over-burden businesses. Changes include classifying biometric data and health info as protected information. In addition, updates how groups notify the public of a data breach.

EMPLOYMENT/LABOR
SB 3104 (Althoff/Jeisel) makes the failure of reporting apprenticeship reports a violation for entities subject to the State Construction Minority and Female Building Trades Act.

SB 3163 (Von Pelt/Rito) creates the Illinois Freedom to Work Act and provides that no employer shall enter into a covenant not to compete with any low-wage employee defined as a wage earner making the greater of the applicable minimum wage or $13 per hour.

HB 3554 (Guazzardi/Harmon) directs the Department of Labor (DOL) to conduct a good faith search to find aggrieved employees harmed by unpaid wages so they may recover what they are owed. If the DOL cannot locate the aggrieved employee, then the Department can deposit the amount recovered into a specified DOL fund.

HB 4036 (Lilly/Hutchison) amended the Victims Economic Security & Safety Act (VESSA) to require employers with one or more employees to allow an employee who has a family member or household member who is a victim of domestic or sexual violence four weeks of unpaid leave. The Chamber was able to negotiate the time down from 12 weeks to four weeks and was neutral on its passage.

HB 4999 (Guazzardi/Connelly) creates the Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act and would make it unlawful for an employer or prospective employer to require or request an employee or applicant to authorize or access a personal online account in the presence of the employer; to request or require that an employee or applicant invite the employer to join a group affiliated with any personal online account of the employee or applicant; or join an online account established by the employer. The Chamber worked closely with the sponsor to include adopted language to the bill and was neutral on its passage.

ENVIRONMENT: SB 2918 (Forby/Bradley) provides that under the Illinois Pesticide Act a “Commercial Not For Hire Applicator,” includes a certified applicator who uses or supervises the use of pesticides classified for general or restricted use as an employee of a state agency, municipality, or other duly constituted governmental agency or unit. Also, removes the definition of “Licensed Public Applicator” from the act and changes fees for licensure.

HEALTHCARE
SB 1564 (Biss/Groelt) requires health care facilities to adopt written access to care and information protocols that are designed to ensure that conscience-based objections do not cause impairment of patients’ health and that explain how conscience-based objections will be addressed in a timely manner to facilitate patient health care services.

SB 2331 (Biss/Mitchell) clarifies current law and provides clarification that business affiliates of managed care organizations (MCO) who contract out care coordination services are authorized to communicate with their enrollees.

HB 2459 (Syverson/Forster) authorizes the use of video conferencing in hearings to authorize involuntary administration of psychotropic medication and electroconvulsive therapy. Any court may permit any witness, including a psychiatrist, to testify by video conferencing equipment from any location in the absence of a court rule specifically prohibiting that testimony.

HB 2787 (Rose/Davidsmeyer) requires that health carriers submit reports to the Director of Insurance by June 1, rather than March 1.

SB 2900 (Martinez/Zelewski) adds the term “physician assistant” to various acts that fall within the scope of practice of a physician assistant.

HB 4554 (Flowers/Link) requires Medicaid coverage for all FDA approved drugs which have also been recommended by the federal Public Health Service or the CDC for pre-exposure prophylaxis.

HB 5576 (Nekritz/Hutchinson) mandates coverage without cost sharing for all contraceptive drugs, devices, and other products, including voluntary sterilization. Insurance must also pay for up to 12 months of contraception at one time.

HB 5593 (Lang/Bush) requires substance abuse programs licensed by DHS to provide educational info on opioid treatment options, including use of medication for opioid addiction and overdose, how to administer naloxone.

INSURANCE: HB 4633 (Matricik/Haine) requires all authorized insurers in Illinois to locate and pay beneficiaries’ proceeds under unclaimed life insurance policies, annuity contracts, and retained asset accounts issued in the State or remit such proceeds to the Treasurer’s Unclaimed Property Division.

TAX
SB 321 (Holmes/Gopalo LoVio) extends the sunset date of the River Edge Redevelopment Zone program from July 29, 2017 to August 1, 2020.

HB 5527 (Manley/Link) creates the State Tax Preparer Oversight Act. The bill provides that, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2017, the Department of Revenue shall require any income tax return preparer to include his or her PTIN on any tax return prepared by the income tax return preparer and filed under the Illinois Income Tax Act or any claim for refund of tax imposed by the Illinois Income Tax Act.

TRANSPORTATION/INFRASTRUCTURE
SB 637 (Link/Currie) makes changes to Illinois law to comply with federal REAL ID regulations.

SB 2533 (Cunningham/Burke) Authorizes the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District executive director to appoint, with board approval, an administrative services officer.

HB 5723 (Davis/Harris) provides that a person convicted of operating a vehicle without an insurance policy shall be guilty of a petty offense instead of a business offense.

HB 5912 (Moeller/Noland) clarifies that a person riding a bicycle has all the rights applicable to a driver of a vehicle, including those regarding a vehicle’s right-of-way.
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