It’s everyone’s business.

November 26 is Shop Chamber Kickoff & Small Business Saturday!

Support Your Neighborhood Businesses!
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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 DeMoulin, First Clover Leaf Bank
David Janes, Scott Credit Union
Amanda Linton, Northwestern Mutual
Tim Mahnesmith, Edward Jones Investments

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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

on the cover

November 26: Small Business Saturday & Shop Chamber Campaign Kick-Off

The Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce’s annual Shop Chamber campaign kicks off on Small Business Saturday – November 26!

The Ed/Glen Chamber, together with the Illinois Metro East Small Business Development Center at SIUE, encourages you to SHOP SMALL on November 26 as the holiday shopping commences.

Be on the lookout for Shop Chamber signage at local shopping and dining establishments beginning on Small Business Saturday. Retail and dining establishments are asked to contact Membership Director Kerry Smith (618.656.7600 or membership@edglenchamber.com) to learn more about participating in the Shop Chamber campaign. Participating restaurants and merchants will receive a campaign-specific marketing toolbox and signage, along with a great deal of social media promotion. The Shop Chamber campaign is an annual effort to celebrate our thriving business community and encourage residents to ‘think local’ as they make holiday purchasing decisions.

As you begin to prepare for a busy holiday season of party hosting, tokens of appreciation for clients and staff, and thoughtful gifts for family and friends, please make a concerted effort to shop locally! If you’re searching for a product, service or venue and would like some guidance and recommendations, call the Ed/Glen Chamber office at 618.656.7600 and our friendly staff members will assist you.

Shop SMART. Shop LOCAL. Shop CHAMBER!
special investors

**Gold Level**
- Anderson Hospital
- Gateway Regional Medical Center

**Silver Level**
- Ameren Illinois Utilities
- AT&T Mobility Edwardsville

**Bronze Level**
- First Clover Leaf Bank
- Got Julian & Associates, PC
- Holland Construction Services, Inc.
- Homestead Energy, A Dynegy Company
- Jeneau Associates, Inc.
- Korte & Lutjohan Contractors, Inc.
- Love’s Travel Stops
- Madison Mutual Insurance Company
- Methis, Marifin & Richter, LTD
- Mike Shannon’s Grill Edwardsville, LLC
- Peiffer Construction Company
- R. P. Lumber Company, Inc.
- Robert ‘Chick’ Fritz, Inc.
- Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

**Premier Level**
- 1818 Chophouse
- A Julian Felix Beautique
- ABRA Auto Body & Glass
- Abstracts & Titles Inc.
- Allison’s Comfort Shoes & Boots
- America’s Family Insurance
- Annie’s Frozen Custard
- Assurance Brokers, Ltd.
- Banfield Pet Hospital
- BAREBRoss Home Care
- Bord & Didriksons Pediatrics, PC
- Brou Hile Orthodontic Specialists
- Bella Milano Edwardsville
- Best Western Plus Pontoon Beach
- Big Daddy’s Edwardsville
- Brain Balance Achievement Centers
- Brickman Orthodontics
- Chop’s Mexican Restaurant
- Chef’s Shoppe
- Cleveland-Heath
- Club 2L In-Home Tutoring Services
- Cold Stone Creamery
- Comfort Inn & Conference Center
- Commerce Bank
- CompassType, Inc.
- Contera Construction Company, LLC
- Cornerstone Insurance Group
- Country Club Lawn & Tree Specialists, Inc.
- Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.
- Culver’s of Edwardsville
- Days Inn
- Dimond Bros. Insurance, LLC

** Doc’s Smokehouse & Catering
- Danner Distilling
- Edison’s Entertainment Complex
- Edwardsville Ambulatory Surgery Center
- Edwardsville Pet Hospital
- Egyptian Business Furniture
- Envisioning Green
- Express Employment Professionals
- Farmers Insurance
- FCB Edwardsville Bank
- First Community Credit Union
- First Midwest Illinois Bank & Trust
- First National Bank - Maryville
- Ford Hotel Supply
- Foundry Public House
- Gateway Center
- Gateway Grizzlies
- Gerald Moving & Warehousing Company
- Gili’s Department Store
- Goddard School
- Greensfelder, Hemker & Gerke, P.C.
- Gulf Shores Restaurant & Grill
- Hampton Inn & Suites
- Harvey H. Breaker, DMD, MS
- Hawkins Law Office, P.C.
- Hawthorne Animal Hospital
- HeplerBroom, LLC
- Highland Recycling & Shredding
- HineLevel
- HotSpots Sports Bar & Grill
- IMPACT Strategies, Inc.
- J.F. Electric, Inc.
- J.T. McDermott Remodeling Contractors
- Jackson Lewis, P.C.
- Jan’s Hallmark Shop
- Jones Air & Water, LLC
- KinderCare Learning Center
- Kitchenland
- La Quinta Inn & Suites
- Lindenwood University
- Lourer Facility Planning, Inc.
- Magnuson Carneil Hotel
- Market Basket
- Midwest Occupational Medicine
- Minuleman Press
- National Bank
- Network Specialists, LLC
- Northwestern Mutual
- ONEWAY Construction
- Phone Masters
- Picker Paper Construction Company, Inc.
- REMAX Alliance
- Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
- Reed, Armstrong, Mudge & Morrissey, P.C.
- Regions Bank
- Richards Brick Company
- RiverBender.com/EdGlenToday.com
- Royal Office Products, Inc.
- Royal Solutions, LLC
- San Gabriel Memory Care
- Scheffel Boyle
- Sivo Business & Legal Services, PC
- South Side’s All-Star Collision Center
- Southern IL Underwriters Agency, Inc.
- Springfield Electric Supply Company
- State Farm Insurance - Rick Marteeny
- Sun Restaurant
- Sugo’s Spaghetteria
- Sunset Hills Country Club
- Sunset Hills Family Dental
- Super & Motel
- Thompson & Lengacher, P.C.
- Tiger Plumbing Heating, AC & Electrical Services
- Town and Country Bank
- Timberg & Associates, P.C.
- University Nursing & Rehab Center
- US Bank
- Vision For Life
- Visionary Wealth Advisors
- Viviano Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
- Wang Gang Asian
- The Wooden Nickel Pub & Grill

**Common Ground**

**Save the Date**

- **10/31** Monday 6:30pm
- Annual Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce Halloween Parade
- **THEME: TV CLASSICS**
- Downtown Edwardsville
- Registration & Sponsorship Forms Available Online

- **11/1 Tuesday 8-9am**
- ACCELERATE
- Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Holiday Inn Express & Suites
- 1000 Plummer Drive
- Edwardsville, IL 62025
- RSVP Online

- **11/8 Tuesday 12-1pm**
- networking@noon
- Edison’s Entertainment Complex
- 2477 South IL Route 157
- Edwardsville, IL 62025
- RSVP Online

- **11/9 Wednesday 8-9am**
- Chamber Q&A: Maximize Your Membership
- Ed/Glen Chamber Office
- 1 North Research Drive
- Edwardsville, IL 62025
- RSVP Online

- **11/9 Wednesday 4pm**
- Ground Breaking
- Donco Electrical Construction & Fowler Management Services
- 100 Lakefront Parkway
- Edwardsville, IL 62025

- **11/10 Thursday 4pm**
- Ribbon Cutting
- Brickman Orthodontics
- 144 West Street
- Edwardsville, IL 62025

- **11/12 Saturday 9-11am**
- SPECIAL PROGRAM: How to Run For Office – Learn How To Get On The Ballot, Run An Effective Campaign, & WIN!
- hosted by Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS & the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce
- at the Ed/Glen Chamber Office
- 1 North Research Drive
- Edwardsville, IL 62025
- RSVP Online

- **11/16 Wednesday 4pm**
- Ribbon Cutting
- Security Finance
- 1500 Troy Road, Suites A & B
- Edwardsville, IL 62025

- **11/17 Thursday 5-7pm**
- Business After 5
- Merrill Lynch
- 2220 South IL Route 157, Suite 250
- Glen Carbon, IL 62034

- **11/22 Tuesday 4pm**
- Ribbon Cutting
- Pinot’s Palatte
- 1063 South IL Route 157, Unit 11
- Edwardsville, IL 62025

- **11/26 Saturday**
- Small Business Saturday & Annual Shop Chamber
- Campaign Kickoff

- **12/7 Wednesday 8-9am**
- Chamber Q&A: Maximize Your Membership
- Ed/Glen Chamber Office
- 1 North Research Drive
- Edwardsville, IL 62025
- RSVP Online

- **12/8 Thursday 4pm**
- Ribbon Cutting
- Dayspring Natural Health LLC
- 8 Ginger Creek Parkway
- Glen Carbon, IL 62034

- **12/13 Tuesday 7-15-8am**
- Morning B2B Networking
- Glazy Squares
- 443 South Buchanan Street
- Edwardsville, IL 62025
- RSVP Online

- **12/15 Thursday 5-7pm**
- Business After 5
- Gulf Shores Restaurant & Grill
- 215 Harvard Drive
- Edwardsville, IL 62025
connect
the newly connected

HealthSource of Glen Carbon/Edwardsville
Josh Hottes
Healthcare & Chiropractic
11 Junction Drive, Suite B
Glen Carbon, IL 62034
618.307.9855
www.healthsourceofglenarbon.com
business of the month

COMPANY HISTORY: Robert “Chick” Fritz, Inc. is a beer distributor that was founded in 1947 by Robert “Chick” Fritz in Mascoutah, IL. It has now grown to be a third generation family owned and operated business with three locations – Belleville, East Alton, and Springfield – and provides the community with products from Miller, Coors, Heineken, Guinness, Mike’s, Boulevard, Sierra Nevada, and multiple other beer brands. Bobby Fritz, the president & owner, is the third generation Robert Fritz to lead the company. Anne Fritz serves as VP and co-owner.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: Robert “Chick” Fritz, Inc. employees are all from the geographic locations serviced by the company. The company’s leadership team believes in hiring local people who truly have an understanding for their respective communities.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT: The Fritz team is committed to giving back to the communities in which they work and live. The company participates in various fundraising and community events that help raise donations for nonprofit organizations. Robert “Chick” Fritz, Inc. also supports various local service organizations like Backstoppers and local fire departments that help protect our communities. Community service has been a huge component of Fritz, Inc. since “Chick” founded the company.

WORKFORCE COMMITMENT: One attribute that sets Robert “Chick” Fritz, Inc. apart from other businesses is that by being a family business, each employee is treated as though they are family. Continuing education and participating in on-site staff training opportunities are strongly encouraged. The beer business is a tough and constantly evolving industry, so the quality of the people is just as important as the quality of the product.

LEADERSHIP: Bobby Fritz was instrumental in the creation of the recently established Get to Know the Metro East campaign. In addition, Anne was a tremendous asset in helping the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce develop its first-ever SAVOR: Restaurant Week initiative, which drove thousands of diners into local restaurants.

INNOVATION: As a beverage wholesaler, you have to stay on top of latest trends and consumer demand. Innovation is a word used daily at Robert “Chick” Fritz, Inc., whether it is bringing in a new product or working toward a better way to service the company’s customers.

ROBERT “CHICK” FRITZ INC.
Your Friendly Beer Distributor

EXCELLENCE: Robert “Chick” Fritz, Inc. has been the recipient of the following awards: MillerCoors President’s Award (2009, 2011, 2013, 2014); Heineken Red Star Award (2010, 2013, 2014); Constellation Brands Distributor of the Year (2014); and Schnucks Retailer Partner (2013). All Robert “Chick” Fritz, Inc. sales representatives are Cicerone-trained. The company exceeds best practices by the quality of the product delivered, above-and-beyond customer service, and commitment to the communities in which they live and work.

CHARACTER: Company founder Robert “Chick” Fritz came up with the organization’s tag line, “Your Friendly Beer Distributor.” As a family owned business, the company remains strongly invested in being a part of the community and partners with customers. That philosophy, along with a smile and a handshake go a long way toward building relationships that last for years to come.

FUTURE FOCUS: The company’s leaders are always looking to the future to grow the firm’s portfolio of products, and to grow internally through constant sales and product training to ensure representatives on the street are the best in the business.
Dave Viox: About TheBANK of Edwardsville’s Commercial Banking Services

I moved into the area in 1989 and didn’t know anything about the banking situation. So I started checking around and contacted TheBANK of Edwardsville, and I was pleasantly surprised at how welcoming they were and the way they did business. I was completely sold right from the start.

So when I was looking for new office space for my business, I never even thought about going to any other institution. I was happy to work with TheBANK. I sat down with my commercial banker, Kyle David, and he explained the different programs available for my situation. There were several different options available, and the one we worked out was perfect for what I needed. The entire process was extremely satisfying. Everything was taken care of.

Over the years I’ve been able to get to know so many good people that work at TheBANK. They’re not only great business partners to have, but many are good friends. That’s such a big part of being comfortable with your bank. When you know the people you’re doing business with – when you know them personally and know that they’re quality people – you don’t have those questions, wondering if you’re going to be treated right.
We would like to recognize the many Ed/Glen Chamber investors who are celebrating membership anniversaries in the month of October. 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!

**60+ YEARS**
Weber & Rodney Funeral Home

**50–59 YEARS**
Madison County Journal

**30–39 YEARS**
Illinois Eye Surgeons

**20–29 YEARS**
Andria’s Countryside Restaurant

**10–19 YEARS**
Brickman Orthodontics
The Finishing Touch Home & Office Interiors, LLC
Edwardsville Pet Hospital
Trinity Lutheran School
Metro East Mini Storage

**10–19 YEARS**
Edwardsville Public Library
Minuteman Press
Pristine Cleaning, LLC
Dr. Hal R. Patton, DDS
Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
Thouvenot, Wade & Moerchen, Inc.

**5–9 YEARS**
Frye Functional Health Center
Hudson Jewelers
Sunset Hills Family Dental
American Cancer Society
Children’s Home + Aid
Edwardsville Gun Club
Edwardsville Rotary Club
Goddard School

**5–9 YEARS**
Little Tigers Football
Royal Solutions, LLC
Bauer Hite Orthodontic Specialists
The Cup
Shari Kindle Inc.- Sunshine Realty Solutions
Global Brew Tap House
MidAmerica Plastic Surgery
Reputation Salon

**1–4 YEARS**
RE/MAX Alliance - The Malawy Team
Walgreens
Chestnut Health Systems
The Gingham Buffalo
Brueggeman Chiropractic Center

**1–4 YEARS**
Blake Behme Law Group, P.C.
Doc’s Smokehouse & Catering
J.T. McDermott Remodeling Contractors, LLC
Land of Goshen Rotary Club
Allstate Insurance - Joe Wallace
ADT Security Services

**1–4 YEARS**
Edwardsville Family Dentist
Holiday Inn Express & Suites
Riverbend Head Start
Calcott Roofing Inc.
Landmark Realty, Inc.
Dreaming Up the Ideal Retirement Is Your Job. Helping You Get There Is Ours.

To learn more about why Edward Jones makes sense for you, call or visit a financial advisor today.

Tim Mahnesmith
Financial Advisor
Six 157 Center Ste B
Edwardsville, IL 62025
618-656-3601

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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Banking Law Practiced by Real Professionals

Real-world experience. That is what distinguishes the banking law practice at Mathis, Marifian & 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:

- Bank sales and acquisitions
- Holding company formations
- Collection actions
- Loan workouts
- Mortgage foreclosures
- Loan documentation
- S elections
- Lender liability litigation
- Regulatory matters

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Learn How To
Run For Office
November 12, 2016

Have you considered running for office but don’t know where to start? Attend this informational session and learn how to:

1) GET ON THE BALLOT
2) RUN AN EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGN
3) WIN!

9-11am  Saturday, November 12
Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce Office  1 North Research Drive in Edwardsville
RSVP ONLINE: www.edglenchamber.com  RSVP BY PHONE: 618.656.7600
schmooze
business after 5
ribbon cuttings & ground breakings

Metro Eye Care, PC, September 1
San Gabriel Memory Care, September 8
Anderson Hospital Private Patient Room Unit, September 21
Anderson Hospital Mercy Cancer Care Facility, September 27
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:
- Degenerative disc disease
- Spinal stenosis
- Cervical/low back pain
- Cervical/lumbar herniated discs
- Sciatica
- Scoliosis
- Kyphosis
- Fractures, tumors and infections of the spinal column

CH Orthopedic and Spine Surgeons
(on the Christian Hospital campus)
11125 Dunn Road, Suite 301
St. Louis, MO 63136

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.
Cork Tree Creative, Inc. Announces Dunkin’ Donuts as Newest Client

Edwardsville-based public relations and marketing firm Cork Tree Creative Inc. recently announced it acquired Dunkin’ Donuts, America’s all-day, everyday stop for coffee and baked goods, as its newest client. For Dunkin’ Donuts, Cork Tree Creative will provide public relations and social media support for its entire St. Louis market, which is made up of 12 franchises and with plans to expand.

According to Public Relations Director Laura Reed, “We are thrilled Dunkin’ Donuts has chosen us to represent its St. Louis markets. It is such a highly respected and recognizable brand, and having the opportunity to work with the Dunkin’ Donuts team to expand their reach to new markets is a unique and exciting challenge.”

Cork Tree Creative is celebrating its seventh year in business, with a staff that is specialized in social media services, search engine optimization, graphic/web design, copywriting, public relations and a variety of other services customized to clients’ needs.

Founded in 1950, Dunkin’ Donuts is America’s favorite all-day, everyday stop for coffee and baked goods. Dunkin’ Donuts is a market leader in the hot regular/decaf/flavored coffee, iced coffee, donut, bagel and muffin categories. Dunkin’ Donuts has earned a No. 1 ranking for customer loyalty in the coffee category by Brand Keys for 10 years running. The company has more than 12,000 restaurants in 44 countries worldwide and is based in Canton, MA.

Cork Tree Creative, Inc., located at 138 North Main Street in Edwardsville, is owned by Jan Carpenter and Laura Reed and has recently been awarded Best Marketing Firm and Best PR Firm by St. Louis Small Business Monthly. The company is a certified women-owned business by the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council and the Women-Owned Small Businesses (WOSB) Federal Contracting Program. For more information, please call 618.656.7333, go to www.corktreecreative.com, or find Cork Tree Creative on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn.
your business

Symank Appointed New Shareholder at Sandberg Phoenix & von Gontard P.C.

On November 1, after a unanimous vote by the firm’s partnership, Narcisa P. Symank, an Associate with Sandberg Phoenix, will assume her new role as Shareholder. Having exclusively practiced employment law since graduating from law school in 2007, Narcisa splits her time between the firm’s litigation and corporate practice groups, acting as employment general counsel for firm clients and defending lawsuits. As an experienced litigator and trial attorney, Narcisa defends discrimination and related lawsuits, breach of contract, misclassification, and failure to pay overtime claims, among others. She responds to administrative agency charges and handles federal and state agency audits.

On the transactional side, Narcisa assists businesses and individuals with employment, severance and non-compete agreements. As a counselor, Narcisa provides practical advice on issues ranging from routine personnel matters to complex ADA accommodation and FMLA leave issues, and employee investigations. Because of her extensive litigation experience, when counseling clients Narcisa is able to understand how a jury may react to a particular fact or decision, and spot the provisions in an employment agreement that later may become a litigation problem. The depth of her litigation and transactional employment experience further allows her to offer clear, no-nonsense, business-minded advice.

Narcisa was born in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. At the age of 14, together with her parents and younger brother, she moved to Fenton, MO as a refugee. In 2004, Narcisa graduated summa cum laude from Saint Louis University with a bachelor’s degree in philosophy. She went on to study law at SLU, and graduated in 2007.

Her practice focuses on Missouri and Southern Illinois. She presently lives in Webster Groves with her husband Matt and their young son Sidney. Narcisa loves spending time with her family and friends, and taking the edge off through boxing and pilates.

887 WSIE
THE SOUND

We’re proud to introduce you to the newest 45-year-old radio station in the region.

For information, contact Steve Jankowski at 650-3607 or stejank@siue.edu.
IMPACT Strategies Completes SIUE Quad Renovation Project

Students and faculty of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) returned to school in August to a newly renovated quad, one of the better known locations and main meeting spots on campus. Over the summer, construction-management firm IMPACT Strategies replaced the majority of the decorative brick pavers in the 43,000-square-foot outdoor walkway to restore its appearance and function as a safe walking surface.

The Stratton Quadrangle, better known as The Quad, was originally designed to give students some exposure to nature as they walk from one building to another. IMPACT Strategies carefully worked to protect the area’s existing planters and landscaping. It took special precautions to maintain The Rock, a four-ton piece of limestone that has been part of The Quad since it opened and is regularly changing colors as campus organizations compete to see who can keep it painted the longest. IMPACT Strategies worked with engineering firm Oates Associates, Inc. of Collinsville to complete the project.

IMPACT Strategies, Inc. specializes in retail, commercial, medical, senior housing and education construction and offers comprehensive construction services including design-build, general contracting, construction management and pre-construction management. The company is headquartered in Fairview Heights with an office in St. Louis, primarily serving clients in the St. Louis metropolitan area and throughout the Midwest.

SIUE provides students with a high quality, affordable education that prepares them for successful careers and lives of purpose. Situated on 2,660 acres of beautiful woodland and only a short drive from downtown St. Louis, the SIUE campus is home to a diverse student body of more than 14,000.

NOW AVAILABLE!

Anderson Hospital

The comfort of private rooms... plus the quality you’ve come to expect.

andersonhospital.org/privaterooms
Edwardsville Township Approves Contract For Aircraft Restoration, Asks Residents To Share Memories

Edwardsville Township Supervisor Frank Miles recently announced that the township board has approved a contract for the restoration of the historic U.S. Navy A7E Corsair on display at the Robert C. Stille Edwardsville Township Community Park, located at 6368 Center Grove Road in Edwardsville.

The township board approved a contract with the Flight Deck Veterans Group, a nationwide nonprofit organization based in Tennessee that restores aircraft as a part of its mission of veterans serving veterans and to pass on the history and legacy of veterans and flight deck operations. The Flight Deck Veterans Group has restored historic aircraft across the country including an F-14 Tomcat on display on the historic USS Yorktown in Charleston, South Carolina and the Fast Eagle 102, the first F-14 Tomcat to shoot down another aircraft in combat, on display at the Commemorative Air Force’s High Sky Wing in Midland, TX.

“This agreement is the culmination of a multi-year project to restore our historic aircraft,” said Supervisor Miles. “In late 2013, we were approached by a small group of township residents who were interested in restoring the aircraft. We established a community fund with the Edwardsville Community Foundation so residents could make tax-deductible contributions. Earlier this year, we launched MISSION: PRESERVATION, The Campaign to Restore the Plane – a three-tiered approach to raising the funds necessary to restore the aircraft to ‘display ready condition’ as defined by the U.S. Naval Aviation Museum, from whom the aircraft is on loan from. The approach included contributions from businesses, residents, and the township. The campaign has really rallied the community around the project and brought new volunteers and veterans to the project as well.”

Working with the Flight Deck Veterans Group, the township will determine the period of service the aircraft will be restored to. “We have learned that our aircraft took her maiden cruise in 1975 off the deck of the USS Nimitz, where she was stationed until 1980. In 1982, our aircraft served on the USS JFK and from 1984 to 1996 she served on the USS Saratoga. All deployments for our aircraft were Mediterranean cruises,” said Supervisor Miles. “As we learn more about our historic aircraft, we want to know how our residents are connected to the aircraft or to A7 Corsairs. Maybe their family member served on the USS Nimitz during this time or helped to build or repair A7 Corsairs. Who was at the park 25 years ago when the aircraft was delivered? We are looking for local connections to our aircraft,” said Supervisor Miles.

The township has held several fundraisers for the project. “In addition to individual and corporate contributions, the township held several dine out events in spring of 2016 at local restaurants. We also partnered with Global Brew to host a Fall Fest in Township Park to benefit the project,” said Supervisor Miles. “Because of these efforts, businesses and individuals have contributed nearly $20,000 to the project.”

“The Flight Deck Veterans Group is excited to help the community bring this historic aircraft to life,” said Jared Ashley, CEO and founder of the Fight Deck Veterans Group. “We are honored to be a part of this project.”
Regional Accounting Firm West & Company, LLC Acquires Rice Consulting

West & Company, LLC has purchased the bank consulting practice of Jeffrey A. Rice effective July 1, 2016. Mr. Rice founded his firm in 1982 and has engaged in the performance of directors’ exams, loan reviews and compliance audits.

“It was very important to me that my company be sold to a reputable firm that shared my commitment to the provision of client services at the highest level,” said Mr. Rice. “I am confident that West & Company, LLC is that firm,” he added.

“We are pleased to serve as the successor firm to Jeffrey A. Rice and are pleased to add bank consulting services to the list of services provided by our firm,” said Brian E. Daniell, partner-in-charge of the firm’s Accounting & Auditing Group.

West & Company, LLC, a full service CPA firm with offices in Mattoon, Effingham, Edwardsville, Greenville and Sullivan, was founded in 1968 and has grown to become a regional firm with five offices and 70 employees.

PICTURED L TO R: Director of Bank Services Calvin G. Schultz, Jeffrey A. Rice and Partner Brian E. Daniell.

Beer Of The Month

October

Beer: Boulevard Tank 7 Farmhouse Ale
Style: Saison/Farmhouse Ale
Availability: Year-Round; Draught & 4-Pack bottles

A big surge of fruity aromatics and grapefruit-hoppy notes, the flavor of this complex, straw-colored ale tapers off to a peppery, dry finish with a soft, sweet malt flavor and prominent hop bitterness.

ABV=8.5%

Brought to you by... Your Friendly Beer Distributor
America works better when Americans vote. But Americans can’t vote unless they are registered!

In 2012, an estimated 51 million U.S. citizens were not registered to vote.¹

Four years ago, nearly 1 in 4 eligible citizens were not registered.¹

1 in 8 voter registrations were inaccurate or invalid in 2012.¹

Employee Voter Registration Week is an effort to shrink the number of unregistered eligible private sector voters.

How can we make a difference?

1. Employers: Communicate about registering to vote.
2. Employees: Learn about the issues.
3. Employees: Research the candidates.
4. Everyone: VOTE!

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Illinois Chamber of Commerce President’s Message: State Supreme Court Ruling A Victory for Business

This was published by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce in the October 2016 ‘President’s Message’ email.

On October 20, 2016, the Illinois Supreme Court issued an opinion in Carney v. Union Pacific Railroad Company. In a victory for Union Pacific and the Illinois business community, the court overturned an earlier decision by an Illinois appellate court.

At issue in Carney, was whether Union Pacific was liable for an injury sustained by an employee of a subcontractor hired by an independent contractor hired by Union Pacific. Union Pacific hired a contractor to remove a bridge on its property. The contractor hired the subcontractor for the demolition and removal of the bridge. The circuit court of Cook County found that Union Pacific was not liable for an injury suffered by an employee of the subcontractor. The appellate court reversed the circuit court determination.

The Illinois Chamber of Commerce was the lead filer on an amicus brief in opposition to the appellate court’s decision. We are gratified that the Illinois Supreme Court accepted our amicus brief, adopted the positions urged in our brief, and rejected the position taken by the appellate court as supported in the Supreme Court in an amicus brief filed by the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association. Our amicus brief was drafted by David Mueller of the law firm of Cassidy and Mueller of Peoria.

Union Pacific appealed the appellate court decision and the Illinois Supreme Court reversed the appellate court affirming the judgment of the circuit court. The Supreme Court agreed with the circuit court that Union Pacific was not liable for the injury suffered by the employee of the subcontractor. As the Supreme Court explained, where a plaintiff seeks a recovery based on a defendant’s alleged negligence, the plaintiff must plead and prove the existence of a duty owed by the defendant to the plaintiff, a breach of that duty, and injury proximately resulting from the breach. The Supreme Court found that the circuit court was correct in concluding that plaintiff could not form the existence of such a duty on the part of Union Pacific.

The Supreme Court’s opinion confirmed the point made in our amicus brief that a failure to reverse the appellate court’s decision would have resulted in the expanded liability for Illinois business that has no place in current law since the repeal of the Structural Work Act in 1995.

The Supreme Court’s reversal of the appellate court will have positive statewide consequences by (1) preventing the substantially-increased insurance premiums that would have in turn increased the costs of the affected goods and services and the prices paid for those goods and services, and (2) preventing the increased costs and the resulting impact on prices that would have resulted in a disadvantage to Illinois businesses competing for market share with businesses located in other jurisdictions.

This case is illustrative of the fact that decisions by the Illinois courts can, in some instances, have as much of an effect on the business climate as legislation enacted in Springfield. The Illinois Chamber of Commerce will continue to monitor cases before the courts and weigh in on cases of importance to the business community. If you would like to participate in and support our efforts please contact me.

Todd Maisch, President & CEO
Illinois Chamber of Commerce
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