

October 2016



Edwardsville | Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

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Common Ground



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NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES!



#SHOPSMALL



NOVEMBER 26 IS SHOP CHAMBER KICKOFF & SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY!

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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, BigFrog Custom T-Shirts & More
James DeMoulin, 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

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!

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Scott Credit Union
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Bronze Level

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Breakthru Beverage Illinois
Bull & Bear Grill & Bar
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Edwardsville Intelligencer
First Clover Leaf Bank
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Holland Construction Services, Inc.
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Juneau Associates Inc., P.C.
Korte & Luitjohan Contractors, Inc.
Love's Travel Stops
Madison Mutual Insurance Company
Mathis, Marifian & Richter, LTD
Mike Shannon's Grill Edwardsville, LLC
Poettker Construction Company
R. P. Lumber Company, Inc.
Robert "Chick" Fritz, Inc.
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Spectrum Business
Village of Glen Carbon
Volkert, Inc.
West & Company, LLC

Premier Level

1818 Chophouse
A Julian Felix Boutique
ABRA Auto Body & Glass
Abstracts & Titles Inc.
Allison's Comfort Shoes & Boots
American Family Insurance
Annie's Frozen Custard
Assurance Brokers, Ltd.
Banfield Pet Hospital
BARBERVoss Home Care
Bard & Didriksen Pediatrics, PC
Bauer Hite Orthodontic Specialists
Bella Milano Edwardsville
Best Western Plus Pontoon Beach
Big Daddy's Edwardsville
Brain Balance Achievement Centers
Brickman Orthodontics
Chava's Mexican Restaurant
Chef's Shoppe
Cleveland-Heath
Club Z! In-Home Tutoring Services
Cold Stone Creamery
Comfort Inn & Conference Center
Commerce Bank
CompuType, Inc.
Confegra 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
Donnewald Distributing
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 Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust
First National Bank - Maryville
Ford Hotel Supply
Foundry Public House
Gateway Center
Gateway Grizzlies
Gerold Moving & Warehousing Company
Glik's Department Store
Goddard School
Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C.
Gulf Shores Restaurant & Grill
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HireLevel
Hotshots 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
Lower Facility Planning, Inc.
Magnuson Camelot Hotel
Market Basket
Midwest Occupational Medicine
Minuteman Press
National Bank
Network Specialists, LLC
Northwestern Mutual
ONEWAY Construction
Phone Masters
Placher Construction Company, Inc.
RE/MAX Alliance
Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
Reed, Armstrong, Mudge & Morrissey, P.C.
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Richards Brick Company
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Sivia Business & Legal Services, PC
South Side's All-Star Collision Center
Southern IL Underwriters Agency, Inc.
Springfield Electric Supply Company
State Farm Insurance - Rick Marleeny
Stur Restaurant
Sugo's Spaghetteria
Sunset Hills Country Club
Sunset Hills Family Dental
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Tiger Plumbing, Heating, A/C, & Electrical Services
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Tzinberg & Associates, P.C.
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US Bank
Vision For Life
Visionary Wealth Advisors
Viviano Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
Wang Gang Asian
The Wooden Nickel Pub & Grill

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
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On The Ballot, Run An Effective
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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 Palette
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

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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.



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.





(From left) Kyle David, Assistant Vice President, TheBANK of Edwardsville - Commercial Banking; and Dave Viox, Owner, AAdvantage Insurance Group.



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.

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www.4thebank.com



connect

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

40-49 YEARS

J.F. Electric, Inc.

Juneau Associates Inc., P.C.

30-39 YEARS

Illinois Eye Surgeons

20-29 YEARS

Abstracts & Titles Inc.

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

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

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

**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**

**Edwardsville Family Dentist
Holiday Inn Express & Suites
Riverbend Head Start
Calcott Roofing Inc.
Landmark Realty, Inc.**



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- 2) RUN AN EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGN
- 3) WIN!

9-11am Saturday, November 12

Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce Office

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1 North Research Drive in Edwardsville

RSVP BY PHONE: 618.656.7600



Edwardsville | Glen Carbon
Chamber of Commerce



schmooze

business after 5



Mathis Marifian & Richter LTD + IL Metro-East SBDC, September 15



Mathis Marifian & Richter LTD + IL Metro-East SBDC, September 15



Mathis Marifian & Richter LTD + IL Metro-East SBDC, September 15



Mathis Marifian & Richter LTD + IL Metro-East SBDC, September 15



Mathis Marifian & Richter LTD + IL Metro-East SBDC, September 15



Mathis Marifian & Richter LTD + IL Metro-East SBDC, September 15

ribbon cuttings & ground breakings



Metro Eye Care, PC, September 1



San Gabriel Memory Care, September 8



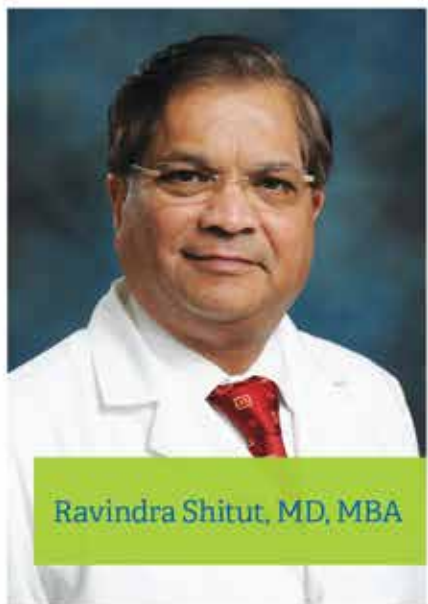
Anderson Hospital Private Patient Room Unit, September 21



Anderson Hospital Mercy Cancer Care Facility, September 27

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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.

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- Sciatica
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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**.

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BJC Medical Group doctors on staff at **Christian Hospital**

"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.

your business

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.

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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.



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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.



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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.

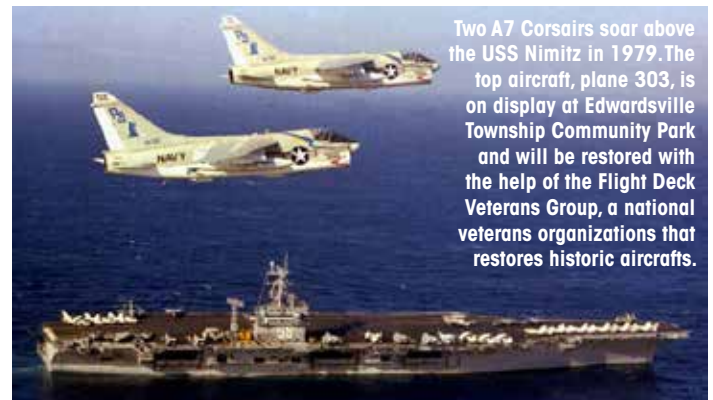
"This agreement is the culmination of a multi-year project to restore our historic aircraft," said Supervisor Miles. "In late 2013, we were approached by a small group of township residents who were interested in restoring the aircraft. We established a community fund with the Edwardsville Community 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."



Two A7 Corsairs soar above the USS Nimitz in 1979. The top aircraft, plane 303, is on display at Edwardsville Township Community Park and will be restored with the help of the Flight Deck Veterans Group, a national veterans organizations that restores historic aircrafts.

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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: 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.

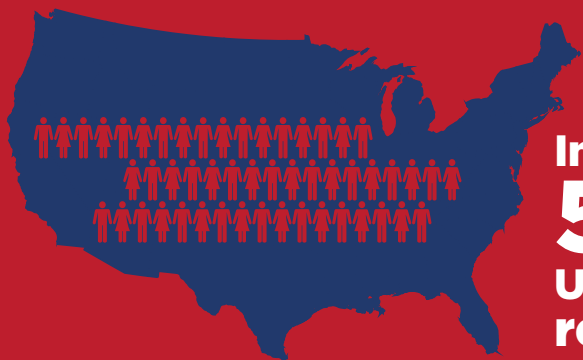
ABV=8.5%



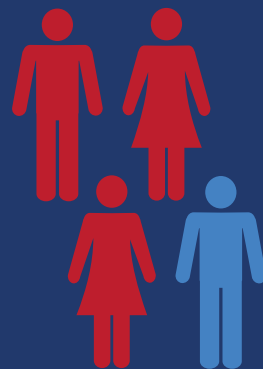
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**America works better when Americans vote.
But Americans can't vote unless they are registered!**



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



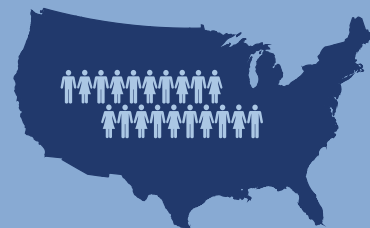
The truth
is that
registering
to vote is
simple and
doesn't take
much time
or effort.

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?



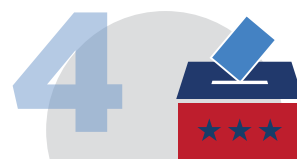
Employers:
Communicate about
registering to vote.



Employees:
Learn about the issues.



Employees:
Research the candidates.



Everyone:
VOTE!

Together, employees vote and make a difference in this year's election.

EVRW is powered by BIPAC, a nonpartisan, membership-driven, organization dedicated to helping private sector employers and employees engage in the political process.

¹Pew Center on the States (2012) Inaccurate, costly, and inefficient evidence that America's voter registration system needs an upgrade. Retrieved from http://www.pewtrusts.org/-/media/legacy/uploadedfiles/pcs_assets/2012/PewUpgradingVoterRegistrationpdf.pdf

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 state-wide 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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