

UNEXPECTED kenosha

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kenosha Area Business Alliance(KABA) | Fall 2015

First Industrial breaks ground on new 309-acre development in the Village of Somers

First Industrial Realty Trust is in the midst of construction on a new master-planned business park in the Village of Somers: FirstPark 94. The 310-acre property is located at Highways S and H, east of the Interstate 94 interchange. It is the site of the former Charles Tunkieicz Farm property.

It's first development will be 600,000-square-foot industrial facility which is expected to be complete in spring 2016. It is a 36-foot clear building with substantial loading and parking that would serve a range of potential tenants for a manufacturing or distribution use, including consumer products companies, traditional retailers, and e-commerce businesses. Riley Construction is the general contractor for the building, Partners in Design and Pinnacle Engineering also are assisting with the project. Pitts Brothers & Associates represented the seller and NAI Hiffman represented the buyer in the property transaction.

"Kenosha County is a dynamic market with good fundamentals and a business friendly environment which offers great access to the substantial customer bases in Chicago, Milwaukee and the greater Midwest."

– Adam Moore, Regional Director, First Industrial

FirstPark 94 can accommodate approximately 4.6 million square feet of development including build-to-suits ranging from 150,000 square feet to 1.5 million square feet. The site is accessible to I-94 from three 4-way interchanges and offers frontage along the Canadian Pacific Railway with potential rail access.



First Industrial held a ceremonial ground breaking at the FirstPark 94 site in August.

The Village of Somers is building utilities for the project, including sewer and water lines, with newly established TIF funding. TIF allows the village to pay off its costs for the infrastructure work by using new property taxes generated by the business park.

KABA is the lead business organization that drives economic development throughout Kenosha County and supports and provides services to its members and the community, helping to ensure growth, a robust economy, and a positive business climate for the Kenosha Area.



A rendering of FirstPark 94's first development: a 600,000 SF speculative industrial facility.

Inside...

- > Understanding the Comprehensive Kenosha County labor study
- > Kenosha County's equalized value surges
- > Awards season: Business Excellence and Future 5 awards

Unexpected Kenosha is published quarterly by the Kenosha Area Business Alliance, Inc. (KABA). Archives can be found on our web site:

www.kaba.org/kaba/news

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kenosha County's industrial development momentum continues. Recently two new business park developments got underway. Both incorporate new actors into Kenosha County's industrial development mix. The Village of Somers and the Town of Salem are each involved with efforts to establish industrial parks, the first for each community.

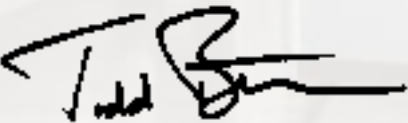
In Somers, First Industrial has acquired a 309-acre site at the intersection of STH 142 and CTH H and commenced site work and construction of a 600,000 SF speculative industrial building. The Village of Somers is supporting the development with Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and the extension of utilities.

In Salem, the Town is partnering with KABA to develop an 82-acre business park on CTH C just west of STH 83. Site and infrastructure work will commence in October. The Town has established a TIF district and is installing and financing the park's infrastructure.

These two developments should complement each other nicely as the park in Somers is well-suited to accommodate big industrial users desiring large, scalable facilities and proximity to I-94. The Salem business park has a site plan that seeks to accommodate small to mid-size industrial firms in the 25,000 – 100,000 SF range. Both developments add to Kenosha County's mix of shovel ready development sites.

Switching gears for a moment, I wanted to also share a quick update regarding efforts to enhance collaboration amongst business, education, government and non-profits to drive improvements to Kenosha's education and workforce development systems. We recently hosted a representative from STRIVE Together to learn more about their work to help communities across the United States establish cradle to career systems. The concept is that the entire community, rather than one sector or institution, has a responsibility and an obligation to work together to ensure that every student has an opportunity, and as much support as possible, to gain the education and skills necessary to have a productive and meaningful career.

The STRIVE Framework seeks to align the community around a set of common goals and relies heavily on data-driven decision making and continuous improvement in an effort to keep moving toward desired outcomes. Said another way, kids today that do not get a quality education face very grim employment prospects down the road. This has a cost to our community, most notably in future social service and criminal justice system costs. It also hurts our community's economic potential when we aren't fully utilizing our human resources. We will continue to explore and examine the STRIVE framework over the next several months and expect to have a recommended action plan for Kenosha to pursue by the end of the year.

Sincerely,


Todd Battle,
President, Kenosha Area Business Alliance



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Kenosha-based company offering title insurance and closing services.

TRANSWESTERN

transwestern.net
Full-service commercial real estate firm based in Rosemont, IL.

Upcoming events

2015 Kenosha County Business Excellence Awards

Date: Thursday, November 5, 2015 | **Time:** 4:30 - 8:00 p.m. (cocktail reception: 4:30; dinner: 6:00; awards program: 7:00) | **Location:** UW-Parkside Student Center Ballroom | **Cost:** \$100/person

KABA and the Kenosha Area Chamber of Commerce annually host a recognition dinner honoring the 2015 Kenosha County Business Excellence Award Winners.

2015 Winners are: Business of the Year - **ASYST Technologies**; Small Business of the Year - **Specialized Accounting Services**; Entrepreneur of the Year - **Kurt Penn**, Good Foods Group; Fast Five - **Hanna Cylinders**; **Kenall Manufacturing**; **Kenosha Kingfish**; **McTernan Wireless/MobileOne**; and **Quest Products**.

Presented by Johnson Bank, Johnson Insurance. Our media sponsor is BizTimes Media. Additionally sponsored by UW-Parkside; CliftonLarsonAllen and We Energies are supporting sponsors as well as Black Diamond, Catalyst Exhibits and CenterPoint Properties.

SAVE THE DATE for the KABA Holiday Social:

Wednesday, December 2nd.
KABA members are invited to an evening full of networking, food, drink & holiday spirit!

KABA Member News & Notes

Clear Com

ClearCom Inc., a security and communications integrator headquartered in Racine, has recently built a new office, located at 1443 South 27th Street in Caledonia, where they are prepared to give a full comprehensive presentation of all products and services.



management solutions for commercial construction.

In-Floor Wire Management systems provide the benefit of a completely flexible solution for the entire life of a building. This product addition complements the existing N-R-G FLOR (R) and Walkerdeck (R) product lines.

Northlake Engineering

Standex International Corp., based in New Hampshire, has acquired Northlake Engineering, Inc., a designer, manufacturer and distributor of electromagnetic products and solutions serving the North American power distribution and medical equipment markets.

Cordeck

Cordeck has purchased the HH Robertson brand of in-floor wire

Riley Construction

The newly expanded and renovated David A. Straz Jr. Center for the Natural & Social Sciences at Carthage College is ready for the fall semester. Riley Construction recently added a new 35,000-square-foot wing to the south and east, embracing the center's Lake Michigan location.

UW-Parkside

Justin Davis has been promoted to instruction program manager at the Office of Institutional Effectiveness at the University of Wisconsin - Parkside.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Kenosha County sees some of the largest equalized value increases in the state

A community's equalized value measures the estimated value of all taxable real and personal property. As this number grows, a case can be made that the overall economic value of the community grows as well.

In 2015, Kenosha County saw a significant jump in its equalized value, one of the highest in the state. New industrial and commercial developments led to this overall increase, which was significantly higher than the state average of two percent.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

2015 growth of EV by select counties

| County | EV | \$ Increase | % Increase |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------|
| Milwaukee | \$58.6B | \$397 million | 1% |
| Dane | \$53.9B | \$2.2B | 4% |
| Waukesha | \$50.2B | \$1.2B | 2% |
| Brown | \$19.3B | \$580 million | 3% |
| Racine | \$13.9B | \$272 million | 2% |
| Washington | \$13.3B | \$387 million | 3% |
| Kenosha | \$13.2B | \$600 million | 5% |
| St. Croix | \$8B | \$470 million | 6% |
| Eau Claire | \$7.5B | \$326 million | 5% |
| Pierce | \$3B | \$189 million | 7% |
| State of WI | \$490.6T | \$11.6T | 2% |

Kenosha Regional Airport is ready for take-off

The Kenosha Regional Airport is attracting the attention of regional aircraft service providers and that attention is translating into direct investment.

One new hangar recently opened and two more will be built soon on the east end of the airport.

Stein Aircraft Services (SAS) recently celebrated their new 44,000-square-foot hangar off of Hwy H at an open house event on October 14th. On either side of SAS, two additional hangars will soon be under construction. Global Jet Properties Inc. is constructing a 53,000-square-foot facility on the south side, and GS Kenosha Hangar, LLC is building a 22,500-square-foot hangar on the north side of the SAS hangar. The Global Jet Properties Hangar will feature offices and screening facilities for the United States Department of Homeland Security U.S. Customs and Border Protection, a sought after amenity for international travelers that is not currently available at the airport.

The airport's Interim Director Corey Reed is excited about the new investment and predicts even more growth in the future. He cites a recent survey conducted by the Federal Aviation Association that does not show the growth slowing anytime soon, but shows the airport on a moderately increasing pace of growth for years to come.



Spurred by these predictions and the recent outside investments, Reed has been leading a renewed effort to persuade the FAA to extend runway 7L-25R, 1,101 feet,

adding 300 feet to the east end, and 800 feet on the west end of the runway. He is collecting feedback from current hangar and aircraft owners and users, gauging their interest in extended runways and trying to determine how it would impact their operations. The more support that is gathered from them for the extension, the more likely it will become a reality sooner.

The strongest reason to extend the runway is to increase safety area, especially in icy conditions. With the current runway's length, many pilots cannot land their aircraft at the airport if braking action has been compromised too much by ice, as there's not enough room to brake to a stop if needed. The extension would also allow planes to leave the airport fully fueled and loaded on a hot summer day, which would mean more revenue for the airport's Fixed Base Operators who sell the fuel, which translates to an increase in revenue for the airport. Additionally, being able to leave fully fueled and loaded means aircraft owners will usually be able to reach their destinations non-stop. Lengthening the runway does not mean there will be larger aircraft utilizing the airport, however, because the thickness of the runway cannot accommodate heavier aircraft. Due to these reasons, Reed feels the longer runways would attract more hangar and aircraft owners and users.

"Waukegan's main runway is currently longer than ours, so many Chicago area aircraft owners choose to use that airport. Extending the runway would give us an advantage over nearby competition, adding to the fact that our land rent and fuel is cheaper."

"We have a great location in the fact that we are right off the interstate. We are in the middle of so much industry. Kenosha Regional Airport has a lot of great things going for it."

– Corey Reed, Interim Director,
Kenosha Regional Airport

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Good Foods Group expands footprint

Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch was in Pleasant Prairie in July to help Good Foods Group celebrate their recent 50,000 SF expansion. The clean label food manufacturer doubled their production space and invested in numerous pieces of equipment and High Pressure Processing (HPP) machines to support their growing product line and customer demand.



"I can't imagine a better place to be situated for continued growth than here in Southeast Wisconsin."

– Kurt Penn, CEO,
Good Foods Group

Good Foods relocated to Kenosha County in 2013 and have grown rapidly, increasing revenue, employee base and product line. One of their most exciting new offerings is their cold pressed juices, of which they are becoming an industry leader. Already the largest guacamole producer in the U.S., Good Foods is gaining market share in several other all-natural categories including chicken salad, hummus and dips.

Salem Business Park breaks ground

The Town of Salem and KABA continue to make progress on the Salem Business Park development. In September, the Town received bids and awarded contracts for site work and infrastructure. Reesman's, the winning bidder, is expected to initiate this work in October. Site and utility work will continue into the Spring & Summer of 2016 - at which time all lots will be accessible and available. Given the park's proposed lay-out and existing infrastructure, there is an ability to accommodate more immediate developments as well.

KABA welcomes its new Director of Finance and Administration

Brock Portilia joined the KABA team on August 3 as its new Director of Finance and Administration. Brock comes to KABA from Assurant Health in Milwaukee where he was Senior Auditor. His previous work experience includes accounting positions at CliftonLarsonAllen and Baker Tilly Virchow Krause.

"This is an exciting time for the Kenosha County Area and KABA," remarked KABA President Todd Battle. "We are excited to add a talented finance professional like Brock to our economic development team."

Brock will be responsible for effectively managing all financial matters for KABA, a

501(c)(4) non-profit economic development financing corporation. He will be performing a wide range of duties including financial accounting and reporting, revolving loan fund management and administration, budget preparation, project management accounting and office administration.

"I am very excited to join a great organization like KABA," said Brock about his new position. "I look forward to working hard to help Kenosha continue to be a great place to work, live, and play."

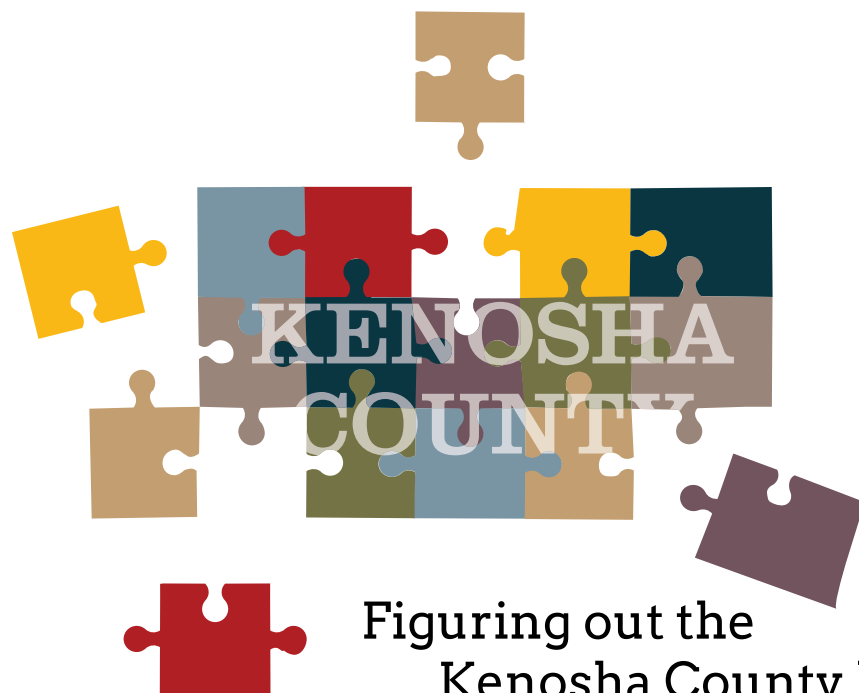
Brock holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh and a master's degree in professional accounting from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee.

Brock grew up in Kenosha and attended local schools, including St. Joseph High School. He enjoys traveling and spending time with his wife, Nadia, and hunting and fishing with his dog, Waddle.

KABA Portfolio Update

In August 2015 KABA's Finance Committee approved financing in the amount of \$375,000 for GEM Manufacturing, Inc. KABA's funds will be used to purchase a vacant building in the Kenosha Industrial Park. Purchase of the building will help GEM to consolidate operations under one roof. KABA will use the funds from its EDA revolving loan fund that was established to promote economic development.





“To remain competitive, Kenosha County must have the ability to accurately answer a question we are asked more and more often from employers: Do you have the available talent to meet my company’s needs?”

Kenosha County,
Wisconsin
Unemployment rate

4.2%

(Sept 2015)

Since 2013, more than 4,200 jobs, almost \$810 million in capital investment, and more than 6.8 million square feet of development have been announced in Kenosha County. Companies like Kenall, Amazon, Meijer and InSinkErator have established operations here. And resident companies like Uline, Good Foods Group, Allied Plastics and ASYST Technologies are expanding - expanding their facilities and adding jobs.

This surge in development activity is leading to exciting growth throughout Kenosha County. These companies have chosen to relocate here - often after an extensive multi-state search - because of our strategic and beautiful location, highly productive workforce, abundant educational opportunities, positive business climate, available land sites and many other reasons.

To remain competitive, however, Kenosha County must have the ability to accurately answer a question we are asked more and more often from employers: Do you have the available talent to meet my company’s needs? The answer - for now - is yes. But attracting and retaining talent who have the skills our employers demand is a challenge Kenosha County and communities across the country are facing. Our talent pool and our companies’ capacity to recruit a highly skilled

workforce is critical to Kenosha’s continued economic success.

KABA is investing in a five-month community engagement project to address this challenge and gain a deeper understanding of our labor market. Currently, we rely on data that lumps our activity in with the larger metros surrounding us - which may or may not reflect the present employment conditions in Kenosha County. More in-depth information about key occupations, commuter patterns, projections, strengths and weaknesses in the labor market and other key indicators will help us collectively develop strategies to address the recruitment challenges of area employers and design training and educational opportunities consistent with the occupational demands within the community.

Together with our partners - the Kenosha County Job Center, Gateway Technical College, UW-Parkside and Carthage College - KABA has commissioned the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research to conduct a Labor Market Analysis of the Kenosha region. The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) provided a community capacity grant to support the project. The Upjohn Institute is a nationally-recognized, non-profit employment research firm based in a

continued on next page >

MISSION

- 1 To identify, understand, and engage with employers and their employees in order to understand what drives talent to the region.
- 2 To attract and retain companies to and in the area by formulating a regional strategy for expanding the pipeline of talent coming into the region.
- 3 To share strategies with communities and partners throughout Wisconsin in order to increase competitiveness throughout the state.

ABOUT THE...

W.E. UPJOHN
INSTITUTE
FOR EMPLOYMENT RESEARCH

The W.E. Upjohn Institute is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan, independent research organization devoted to investigating the causes and effects of unemployment.

The Institute has conducted comparable projects in communities throughout the country including Waco, TX; Cleveland, OH; and Western Michigan.

A team of researchers will be working on the Kenosha Area project, led by Vice President and Senior Labor Economist Kevin M. Hollenbeck. Learn more at www.upjohn.org.

“We believe the work that comes out of this analysis will serve us as we develop programs and training that will increase the value of the local and regional talent pool.”

– Bryan Albrecht, President, Gateway Technical College

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Kalamazoo, Mich. The Institute devotes its resources exclusively to addressing economic and employment-related issues at the international, national, state, and local levels.

In October and November, expert labor economists from the Upjohn Institute will be conducting workshops with the region’s employers to gather input on challenges and opportunities to expand employment in the Kenosha region and help employers know what factors drive employment stability.

At the workshops, employer representatives with strong knowledge of their company’s labor force needs now and in the future will be asked to share their hiring experiences and thoughts about the employment conditions in Kenosha County. These workshops will also be an excellent learning opportunity for attendees to share best practices and hear from Vice President and Senior Labor Economist Kevin M. Hollenbeck and other expert researchers from the Upjohn Institute.

We strongly encourage all employers to participate! We specifically invite HR, hiring and facility operations representatives to attend the workshops. The more input we receive from our local employers, the better informed the Upjohn Institute’s analysis will be and the more impact we can have on local hiring challenges.



More information about these workshops is available at http://bit.ly/2015_KC_Labor_Study. Please register for one of these workshops by Tues., Oct. 27. If you have questions, please contact KABA at 262.605.1100 or info@kaba.org.

> Wednesday, October 28 at the Kenosha Civil War Museum; 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

> Thursday, October 29 at Riley Construction; 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

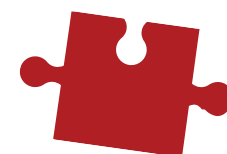
> Monday, November 16 at Uline; 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Help make Kenosha County an even better place to live, work and play!

Surveying Employees

Based on the employers’ focus group sessions described above, the Upjohn Institute will develop an employee survey that will address issues of job satisfaction, commuting patterns, and the other areas of concern raised in the focus group sessions.

For example, a previous study by Upjohn found that workers in Elkhart, Indiana would switch employers for as little as five cents per hour. A meta-analysis of previous literature can help inform the current situation in Kenosha.



The Upjohn Institute will utilize the workshops with area employers to gain insight into why workers change jobs. While we will survey workers to answer this question, it is important to get both sides of the story.

TALENT DEVELOPMENT

October is Manufacturing Awareness Month

In October, KABA and its partners celebrate all things manufacturing, culminating in the It's All About ME! Manufacturing Expo - held this year on Oct. 22 at Gateway's iMet Center. The expo is a field trip opportunity that helps students, parents, and educators understand what careers are available in the industry and create an awareness of local opportunities at world-class companies. If you are a manufacturer who would like to get involved in the future, please contact Brooke Infusino at 262.925.3464 or binfusino@kaba.org.

Eleven KUSD schools honored by the Wisconsin Rtl Center

Eleven KUSD schools were honored by the Wisconsin Rtl Center at the annual statewide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) conference in August. More than 130 PBIS team members from KUSD schools attended the conference, and four sessions were led by KUSD representatives. KUSD Schools of Distinction include Grewenow, Indian Trail, Stocker and Whittier. In addition, Bradford, Bullen, EBSOLA-CA, McKinley, Curtis Strange, Tremper, Washington were recognized as Schools of Merit.

Tech College Board Highlights Partnership with Global Manufacturer Snap-on

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Board awarded its "Futuremakers Partner" award to Snap-on, Incorporated in September. The award recognizes the dynamic and enduring partnerships between Wisconsin's technical colleges and their employer partners.

"Snap-on's support for community and technical colleges like Gateway serves as a national model of how business and education partnerships can improve education and economic outcomes," said Gateway Technical College President and CEO Bryan Albrecht.

Snap-on's commitment to Gateway includes access to personnel, tools and equipment; intellectual property; instructor training and industry curriculum; and brand identity. Students receive scholarships, as well as access to industry networks, product testing and the world's best tools. The collective impact of their effort extends to more than 20,000 students earning industry credentials that improve their career opportunities and futures.

"We believe that Wisconsin's technical colleges are a model for the country," said Samuel Bottum, Snap-on's Director of Corporate Initiatives.



INSPIRE

KENOSHA

Cultivating Joy and a fulfilling company culture were themes at 2015 event

The third annual Inspire Kenosha leadership summit was a great success and KABA looks forward to bringing another slate of inspiring speakers and leadership programming to Kenosha in 2016.

Almost 170 people attended the one-day event held at Uline on August 5. The summit consisted of several live speakers and plenty of audience interaction, facilitated by leadership expert Aleta Norris. Keynote speaker Richard Sheridan, President of Menlo Innovations and author of Joy Inc., spoke about cultivating joy in your workplace and trying new and innovative ways to work. Other speakers included regional business and community leaders such as Bryan Albrecht, Frank Unick, Tim Ferry and Jean Moran.



Learning from Leaders in our Community | By Todd Battle, President, KABA

Recently KABA hosted Inspire Kenosha, a day-long summit focused on leadership and leadership development. This was our third year hosting such an event, but this year's format was decidedly different. We moved away from re-broadcasting content from a national leadership conference held elsewhere and instead delivered a line-up of live speakers, real and in-person, from Southeastern Wisconsin and the surrounding region.

Top level leaders from InSinkerator, Snap-on, ULINE, Gateway Technical College, Living as a Leader, and LMI Packaging Solutions presented and shared their experiences and leadership insights. Richard Sheridan, author of Joy, Inc. and CEO of Menlo Innovations in Ann Arbor, MI, keynoted the event by sharing how his company wins by creating a joyful work environment. Participant feedback was overwhelmingly positive and we are already thinking about how we raise the bar next year.

In the interim, we will be expanding the Inspire Kenosha brand to provide more content on leadership and leadership development. In future newsletters, you can expect to hear thoughts on leadership from local business and community leaders in this space and a regular column from leadership expert Aleta Norris. Aleta kicks off this new focus with a column on the importance of positive feedback below.

Leadership and Positive Feedback

69% of American workers would work harder if they were better recognized and appreciated. (Globoforce Workforce Mood Tracker, 2011)

By understanding what current research is telling us about employees and about leaders....well this is one way to hone in on key strategies for maximizing employee performance and engagement. Many (though not all) employees experience some degree of disappointment day in and day out at work. Very often, it is because of a lack of feeling valued or of feeling assured that they're on the right track at work.

It remains that positive feedback is one of the most under utilized responsibilities of a leader! And think about this....it doesn't cost a penny.

Why then are leaders not providing more recognition, appreciation, positive feedback and gratitude? There are a number of common reasons (all of which you can note do not have anything to do with 'malicious' intent):

- They do not think about it.
- They do not have a disciplined plan of accountability for themselves to give it.
- Some think a paycheck is feedback enough.
- Some don't do it, because THEY do not receive these things from their leader.
- And some just don't believe in it. They liken it to 'coddling' people.

Consistently within organizations, there is a disconnect between the needs of employees and the needs of leaders. The number one need for leaders is to get results, and the number one need for employees is to feel fulfilled while working to achieve results. We often refer to the flashing sign that inadvertently exists on the forehead of every employee - MMFI. This stands for "Make Me Feel Important."

Positive feedback has a powerful impact. The human need to feel important is fairly universal.

A high-performing employee we know recently shared with his boss, "Since you've been more intentional about your leadership, you have been giving me more positive feedback. I appreciate it, and it makes me want to work even harder."

Try it this week! Challenge yourself to a minimum of five doses of recognition, appreciation, feedback and gratitude!

Aleta Norris is a leadership expert and Principal at Living as a Leader LLC. She will provide an ongoing column on developing better leadership skills in the Unexpected Kenosha newsletter.



Name: Tre Mantuano
Occupation: Restaurant Manager at Mangia Wine Bar

How long have you lived and/or worked in Kenosha County? I've lived in Kenosha County on and off my whole life. I attended Grant Elementary, Friedens Lutheran School and Shoreland Lutheran High School (Go Pacers!). I moved up to Milwaukee for about 4 years in order to attend UW-Milwaukee, moved back a couple of years ago and took some years off of school but now I'm finishing my degree in Business Management at UW-Parkside this year.

Describe a day in the life of Tre. As the Restaurant Manager at Mangia I make sure that we are providing excellent service to our guests. I make sure we are staffed accordingly, help out with ordering, inventory, editing the website, and come up with ideas for events at the restaurant. I manage all social media accounts for Mangia with the aim to make you hungry! I spend a fair amount of my day talking with guests. I love being able to increase others' knowledge on food and wine. I also don't mind talking sports as you will find out if you stop in.

What makes Kenosha County a great place to work and play? I think Kenosha County is really underrated. It's a great place to live, I love it. Milwaukee is just 45 minutes north, Chicago is an hour south. I like how friendly everyone is in the community, everyone knows each other. Some people look at that as a downfall, but honestly I think it's a great aspect of living here. The large population of Italians makes it a pretty cool place, too.

What is your favorite Kenosha County event/activity? I really enjoy the Kenosha Harbor Market. I think it's awesome that Kenosha has such a great market to take advantage of. If you have never been you should go and check it out. After you go once, you will be back.

What is one thing you would like to see improved in Kenosha County? I still think people in Kenosha County can get out more. Especially young people. We have some really good restaurants in the area for affordable prices. We have a great downtown area. Go out to eat, walk around downtown or by the lake, visit our museums, take the trolley, go to Peanut Butter and Jam or Jazz in the Park, go to the fairs or festivals in the area, go see a Kingfish game...there is more to do than you think!

What about Kenosha are you really proud of? I'm proud of how everyone comes together here. In business, people are constantly looking to connect; to see how they can help out each other. It's like everyone is looking out for one another. We all want the community to succeed. It makes it really easy to work with others.

**Take 5 with Kenosha
YP Tre Mantuano**



AMY GREIL

Community, Natural Resource &
Economic Development Educator,
University of Wisconsin-Extension



JAKE MCGHEE

General Manager, Kenosha Kingfish



TRACY NIELSEN

CEO, United Way of Kenosha County



JP MORAN

General Manager,
LMI Packaging Solutions



SUSAN RIZZO

Community Relations Manager,
United Hospital System

YLink honors outstanding young professionals at its second annual Future 5 awards event

Business, entertainment, non-profit, healthcare and education are the arenas this year's crop of Future 5 award winners represent. They're influencing people in their organizations and affecting change in their community.

More than 200 supporters celebrated these young leaders at the awards event at the Kenosha Airport on Oct. 22.

YLink created the annual Future 5 Young Professional Awards to honor individuals who live or work in our community, and who are positively influencing quality of life in the Kenosha area through their community involvement, professional achievement, leadership and inspiring vision for the future of Kenosha.

More than 75 individuals between the ages of 21 and 40 were nominated for this year's award. Members of the YLink board of directors examined the applications to determine the five individuals who are truly elevating Kenosha.

WHAT'S UP IN DOWNTOWN KENOSHA

Thanks to all who attended the State of the Downtown!

On October 21, more than 170 people came to hear about the latest updates on Downtown revitalization efforts. The annual event is a celebration to speak to the year that has been. It was an opportunity to reflect on our past accomplishments of Downtown, take stock in our present, and project the possibilities of the future. The keynote guest speaker, Ted Spitzer of Market Ventures, Inc. presented what could be our next big downtown project, an indoor public market. It was well received and we are very excited to start moving the next steps of this concept forward. The next year will be filled with challenges and many more success stories. We look forward to sharing them at the event next year!



Kenosha's
newest
destination
for liquid
refreshment.

WELCOME!

The Buzz, Sazzy B's spin-off cafe, is slated to be open by end of October. Coffee, paninis, wine and craft beers will be their specialty. See more at www.buzzcafekenosha.com.



From Christopher's Desk...

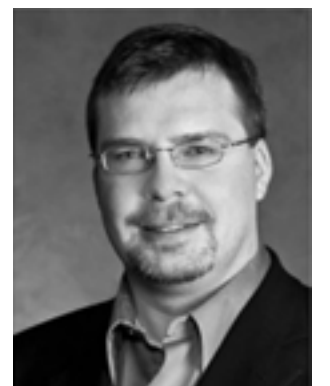
October means a changing of the seasons. Our warm weather shifts to cool chilly winds, our large summer crowds thin, and we find ourselves a brief moment to reflect on the past months. However, our break will be short, as the next big push for the upcoming Holidays is already upon us.

As we look into November, DKI will be hosting a workshop for Wisconsin State Main Street Directors November 11-13. Our topic will be social media strategies for the 30-40 guests from around the state. We look forward to showcasing our community to our peers and offer them a taste of what Kenosha has to offer.

This opportunity comes as part of our participation with the Wisconsin Main Street program. As an accredited Main Street program DKI is offered technical training and assistance, as well as access to workshops like this in other communities several times a year. As in every case, the host community can allow guests from within the community. For more information or to participate, please contact me at info@downtownkenosha.org. Seats are limited.

In infrastructure news, the first draft of the City of Kenosha's 2016 budget has been presented. Included are infrastructure improvements for 6th Avenue in Downtown. We are pleased the improvements are in the workplan budget for 2016 and will welcome the much needed street, curb, and sidewalk repairs. DKI will keep tabs on construction schedules and work with various stakeholders to communicate access or service interruptions.

If you wish to be a part of the action, don't hesitate. Email Info@downtownkenosha.org.





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