

# Perfectly Centered

Quarterly Newsletter of the  
**Kenosha Area Business Alliance(KABA)**

SPRING 2018

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## Uline's new H2, Midwest Operations Center up and running

*The Pleasant Prairie-based company continues to expand in Kenosha County, win awards*

Since relocating to Kenosha County less than ten years ago, Uline has experienced phenomenal growth. The company's Kenosha County footprint now covers more than 600,000 SF of professional office space and roughly 4.5 million SF of industrial space.

In 2015, the company announced a major expansion at its Pleasant Prairie corporate campus as well as the relocation of its Midwest Operations Center from Waukegan, IL to Kenosha. These expansion projects represent over \$150 million in new investment and have resulted in more than 1,000 new jobs for Kenosha County.

**Uline is now one of Kenosha County's largest employers with a workforce of more than 2,500 here.**

Both of these projects were complete in 2017 and have become fully operational. Since then, Uline has announced additional investments and expansions.

In June 2017, the company purchased 18.5 acres at the southwest corner of Interstate 94 and Highway Q in Pleasant Prairie for future development.

In January 2018, Uline agreed to lease a 417,384 SF building that developer CenterPoint Properties was completing in LakeView Corporate Park east of Interstate 94. The facility, expected to employ 70, will be used for warehousing and storage of shipping supplies.

Uline, a family-owned, privately held business, is the leading distributor of shipping, industrial and packaging materials to businesses throughout North America. They have eleven locations throughout North America - including Canada and Mexico - with more than 5,500 employees.



Uline's new Corporate Office Building-H2 - won a 2018 Real Estate Award from the Milwaukee Business Journal. The project included a 250,000 SF second headquarters building, an adjacent one million SF distribution facility as well as a 22,000 SF conference center. It doubled the size of its corporate campus in Pleasant Prairie and added approximately 500 jobs.



Archives of *Perfectly Centered* can be found on our web site:

**[www.kaba.org](http://www.kaba.org)**



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.

# From our partner...



## PURPOSEFUL COLLABORATION

In these first months as Carthage College's 23rd president, I have been doing a lot of reading and listening – not only about Carthage, but about Kenosha and Racine, too.

I read Harold Lentz's *The Miracle of Carthage*, which describes Carthage's history from its early years through the decision to move to Kenosha. I read Kathryn Marie Dudley's *The End of the Line: Lost Jobs, New Lives in Postindustrial America* to understand Kenosha's history, especially around the time of the closing of the auto plants, better. And I have been reading David Kherdian's *Factory Town* to understand a portion of Racine's history from a first-person perspective.

What have I learned? I learned that Carthaginians – whether they are from Carthage, Illinois, or Kenosha; whether older generations or newer; whether they were educated at Carthage or have spent years of their lives working here – are dedicated to Carthage's educational mission and committed to the college's development.

This ongoing dedication and commitment, I also have learned, is given to an institution that is remarkable. In educating students, Carthage has determined to understand the needs of society and meet them.

Already in the 1870s, in Carthage, Illinois, Carthage College taught both the classics and science. Carthage knew that society needed both pastors and businessmen, both teachers and lawyers, both musicians and painters.

Moreover, Carthage knew, earlier than so many colleges, that society needed the talents of more people than men alone: already in 1870, Carthage enrolled women. Yes, Carthage's historic purpose to develop society is amply in evidence.

At the same time, I have learned much about Kenosha and Racine. These are two communities that know as well as any the value of work and the costs of losing the availability of work. Moreover, Kenosha and Racine, each in its own way, understands what it is to welcome immigrant communities, to experience tensions among them, and to address problems arising from those tensions.

These two communities understand that economic and social development are hard and require the collaboration of all institutions. The origin of the first hospital in Kenosha reflects exactly that can-do attitude: Not waiting for others to provide it, 100 business leaders in Kenosha decided that the community

(and their workers) needed health care and launched what has now become part of Froedtert South.

I recognize, in the history of Carthage and that of Kenosha and Racine, truly unusual alignment. Carthage leaders demonstrated their own can-do attitude by deciding to move away from rural Illinois. Most liberal arts colleges in the United States were founded in the 19th century in small towns, away from avenues of employment and engagement in the world. Carthage's leaders, however, saw in the 1950s that developing society is achieved far more readily in a mid-sized, collaborative city in a growing region.

The timing was excellent: Carthage was seeking to move to a larger, supportive town, and Kenosha was seeking to attract its first four-year institution. But it was more than good timing; it was two can-do communities taking inspired, prescient decisions, seeking to come together for mutual benefit. Those benefits continue to this day.

Those historic purposes inspire me, because they resonate so well with my own. Early in my career, when I was teaching at Davidson College in North Carolina, I thought that my purpose was to teach mathematics. Later, after teaching both mathematics and humanities, I determined it was to help students – to teach, mentor, inspire, and befriend them. And, finally, I realized it was to help people and society itself.

Local history provides ample evidence of people willing to come together and achieve important but difficult tasks. I am ready to roll up my sleeves and join you in this continuing effort.

To me, that purposeful collaboration is the recipe for distinction and success – at Carthage and in all of southeastern Wisconsin.

John Swallow, President,  
Carthage College

## DID YOU KNOW?

- > Carthage receives more applications than any other private liberal arts institution in Wisconsin.
- > Carthage is among the top 10 choices for Illinois students who go out of state for college.
- > *The Princeton Review* selected Carthage for its 2018 "Best in the Midwest" college feature.
- > Carthage is No. 5 among U.S. baccalaureate institutions for participation in short-term study abroad, according to the Institute of International Education.
- > Carthage is the only Wisconsin college or university listed among the nation's top producers of Fulbright fellows in 2017-18.
- > Funded by a grant from the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation, Carthage has created more than 210 paid internships since 2015.



## Video: The Carthage Story

President John Swallow describes the spirit that links Carthage's history and future as students look to meet the community's needs.

> Watch it at [carthage.edu/president](http://carthage.edu/president)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## 2018 KABA ANNUAL MEETING

FEATURING A KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY  
CATHERINE JACOBSON, PRESIDENT & CEO,  
FROEDTERT HEALTH

3.29.18



presented by:  JOHNSON  
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Learn more or register at [bit.ly/2018KABAAM](http://bit.ly/2018KABAAM)



an initiative of the

**KABA**  
KENOSHA AREA  
BUSINESS ALLIANCE

## BUILDING A WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRAND: A 'HOW TO' WORKSHOP

MAY 2018

Additional details  
will be available soon!

Learn more at [kaba.org/news/events](http://kaba.org/news/events)



Featuring the Future 5 Young Professional Awards!

Learn more at [ypweek.com](http://ypweek.com)



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2018

Save the Date! INSPIRE 2018 will be held on October 12th @ Journey Church.  
Additional details – including the exciting speaker line up – will be available soon!

Learn more at [kaba.org/inspire](http://kaba.org/inspire)

## THANK YOU TO THESE COMPANIES FOR THEIR INVESTMENT IN KABA:

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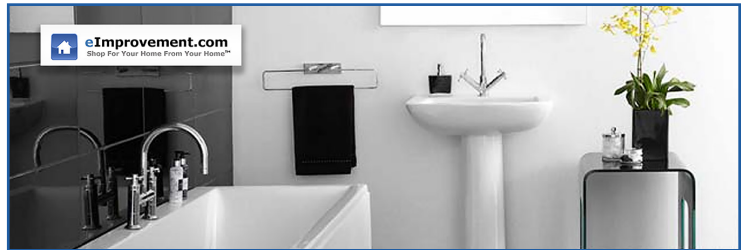
# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Kroger planning \$19.2 million in upgrades at its Kenosha Commissary

The Kroger Co. will reconfigure and eliminate duplication at its Roundy's Commissary in Kenosha.

The 117,000 SF facility previously supplied fresh and prepared foods to Roundy's roughly 150 grocery stores. Kroger, the world's third-largest retailer, acquired Roundy's in 2015.

Plans call for the dairy processing to be moved to another processing plant and for Kroger's prepared soup production lines to be expanded, allowing for the production of 50 million pounds of soup annually, which will be shipped to stores nationwide.



## E-commerce firm relocates to Pleasant Prairie

eImprovement LLC is a growing online retailer of faucets, sinks, fixtures, and accessories for kitchens and bathrooms. It began as a start-up with just two employees in 2003 and today employs almost 100.

The growing firm has leased 20,000 SF of space in SuperValu's office at 8401 W. 102nd St. in Pleasant Prairie. They made the move from Racine at the end of February.

A need for more space was the primary reason for the move. eImprovement has doubled in size within the last year. The company also wanted a location close to I-94 as they draw employees from Milwaukee and Chicago.

eImprovement LLC is the parent company of home improvement and lifestyle companies eFaucets.com of Racine and Denver-based KBExpress.com and Martz Supply.

## FIVE STAR FABRICATING EXPANDING IN TWIN LAKES

Five Star Fabricating is building an approximately 115,000 SF facility across from its main campus in Twin Lakes. The building will be their sixth on site and brings the total operation to over 300,000 SF.

The \$13 million expansion will receive funding from the town of Randall in the form of as much as \$8 million in industrial revenue bonds.

The new facility, to be complete this fall, will house Five Star's window and coating operations, allowing the existing original facility to expand its race car body manufacturing. Five Star was recently selected to be the exclusive body supplier for the NASCAR Xfinity Series. NASCAR has traditionally used steel body panels but has made the switch to composites - which is what Five Star produces - due to advances in technology.

Grading at the site was completed last fall, construction for this state of the art office and production facility is scheduled to begin this spring with an early 2019 completion date.

Family owned and operated, Five Star manufactures composite bodies, polycarbonate windows, and thermoformed plastics for high performance cars. It also has a division - Five Star Coatings Group - that produces custom coated plastic products. Five Star currently employs 160; the expansion will add approximately 25 jobs.



*"Celebrating our 40th year in business, the Schultz Family is proud to be expanding Five Star once again in Twin Lakes. With this expansion, we will continue to look at adding many more quality workers to our current staff of 160. We would like to acknowledge our wonderful local community support and the great people at KABA for helping to make this all happen!"*

*- Corey Schultz, Vice President, Five Star Fabricating*



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Two of Wisconsin's top 15 development projects in 2017 are in Kenosha County

Governor Scott Walker and the WEDC recently announced that 2017 was a record year for economic development with 59 companies locating to or expanding in Wisconsin.

Number three on that list is Haribo's planned \$220 million manufacturing facility in Pleasant Prairie, a project expected to create 385 jobs. The plant will be the German candy-maker's first manufacturing facility in North America.

Gold Standard Baking's new manufacturing facility in Pleasant Prairie came in at #15 with an estimated total project cost of \$42.7 million and 96 new jobs created.

*"Kenosha County had a very successful 2017 in terms of economic development. New projects realized or announced added up to more than \$400 million of capital investment, 1.5 million square feet of development and over 1,000 jobs."*

*- Heather Wessling, VP of Economic Development, KABA*

## Communications Test Design, Inc. (CTDI) leases space in Pleasant Prairie

Pennsylvania-based CTDI has entered into a lease on a 166,620 SF building at the Badger Logistics Center, owned by Majestic Realty. CTDI is an engineering, repair and logistics firm serving communication companies across the globe.

The facility, expected to employ 150, is located on Highway H, north of the RecPlex in Pleasant Prairie.



Majestic Realty, based in California, is one of the nation's largest privately owned business park developers, with more than 78 million square feet of building space. Last September, it bought the 220-acre former Dairyland Greyhound Park in Kenosha.

## Aurora to build a new \$130 million facility in Pleasant Prairie

Aurora Health Care recently announced plans to build an ambulatory surgery center and physician office building in Pleasant Prairie. The \$130 million project will be built on a 64-acre parcel at the northwest corner of 104th Street and 120th Avenue in the Prairie Highlands Corporate Park. The site includes space for possible future expansion.

Services offered at the new facilities will include general surgery, orthopedics, primary care, rehabilitation services, imaging, laboratory services, occupational health, urology, specialty care services and children's health. Aurora anticipates hiring as many as 140 full-time employees in Pleasant Prairie.



## International Mold & Production relocating operations here

International Mold and Production (IMAP), a leading supplier of custom plastic injection molds and parts, is relocating its operations from Illinois to Kenosha and plans to create 25 jobs at its new headquarters.

Len Koren, who founded the company in 2003, said part of the reason the business is relocating to southeastern Wisconsin is to take advantage of the opportunities that will be presented by Foxconn.

The company plans to invest \$1.5 million in the Kenosha facility and has already started relocating some of its operations here. In addition to making Kenosha the company's new headquarters, IMAP hopes to move some of its contracted manufacturing work here from China.

Originally started as a consulting business, IMAP's capabilities expanded to include the addition of a manufacturing division in 2016 that serves the automotive, consumer products and medical industries.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## WISCONSIN NAMED #11 ON BEST STATES LIST

Wisconsin has moved up five places from 2016 to #11 on U.S. News & World Report's 2017 'Best States' list. The magazine publishes its ranking annually, rating states in several categories including Health care, Education, Economy, Opportunity, Infrastructure, Crime & Corrections, Fiscal Stability and Quality of Life. Many of Wisconsin's neighbors in the Midwest rounded out the top five: Iowa (#1), Minnesota (#2) and North Dakota (#4).

*"Wisconsin may be the home of the 'Butterburger' and 'Cheeseheads,' but this leading dairy producer with a long history of fur-trading, heavy industry, beer and big-time football also has a storied political tradition as the home of the modern 'progressive' movement in politics."*

*- U.S. News & World Report*



Wisconsin ranked in the top ten in Opportunity (upward mobility) and Quality of Life metrics.

## Development in Kenosha County not slowing down soon

According to recent report by NAI MLG Commercial, there is 3.4 million SF of industrial development now under construction along the I-94 corridor from Kenosha County to Milwaukee, and another 7.6 million SF planned through 2020. This does not include Foxconn.

In Kenosha County, there is more than 1,509,430 SF under construction and 4,698,198 SF planned, according to the report. But the continued development is happening throughout the county, not just along I-94.

Illinois-based Trans Services Inc. has purchased 52 acres of vacant land just south of the Amazon fulfillment center in Kenosha and plans to hold the property for future development.

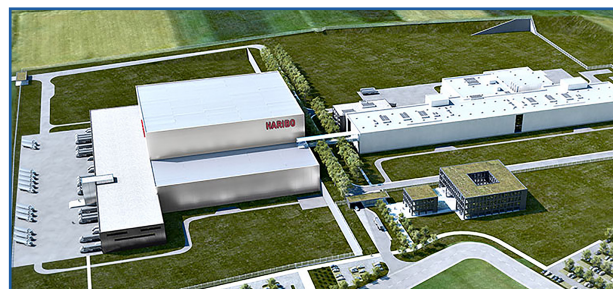
An affiliate of Zilber Property Group purchased 22.8 acres adjacent to LakeView Corporate Park for the eventual development of a spec building.

And recently Venture One proposed a new development - Stateline 94 Corporate Park - on nearly 300 acres on the east side of I-94 in Pleasant Prairie.

## Haribo purchases 137-acre site in Pleasant Prairie

German candy manufacturer Haribo purchased a 137-acre site in Pleasant Prairie in December, solidifying its plans to construct a state-of-the-art manufacturing plant there.

The company announced plans to locate its first North American candy plant in Kenosha County in March 2017. The 500,000 SF plant is a \$242



**HARIBO recently completed a new production facility and administration building in Graftschaff, Germany. The facility is built on approximately 69 acres and employs 300.**

Labs in May 2017. The Village plans to develop the land into a business park called Prairie Highlands Corporate Park.

Founded in Bonn, Germany in 1920, Haribo today employs around 7,000 people worldwide and makes 100 million gummy bears a day.

million investment that is expected to employ almost 400.

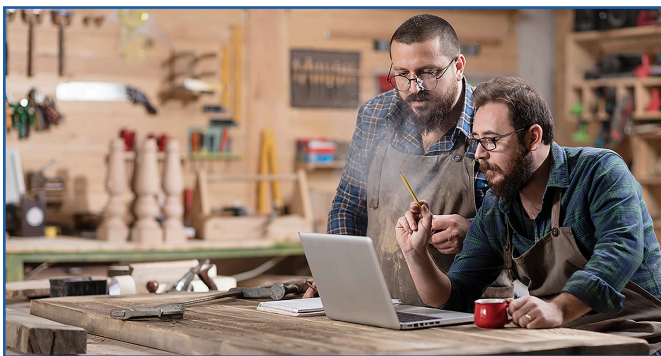
The site Haribo purchased is part of 458 acres the Village bought from Abbott

# Perfectly Centered

K A B A B L O G

## The Family Business and Estate Planning

Family businesses are often built with significant emotional and financial sacrifices and good old-fashioned sweat equity. Owners most often are focused on building their dream and managing the day-to-day running of the business. What happens when it's time to consider leaving the business? How do business owners use succession and estate planning to make sure their transition plan maximizes economic opportunities?



Thoughtful early attention to a wealth transfer plan can help ensure an owner's finances will be in order for their family, business and future generations. Early planning and a regular review of the plan ensures an owner will be able to adapt their plan to unforeseen changes in the business, family or economy and be ready for a transition or sale when the time is right. A business owner without a plan is at risk of not being ready when key opportunities arise for the sale or transition of a business.

A wealth transfer plan can help ensure your finances will be in order for your family, your business and future generations. It is especially important for business owners. However, a significant portion still have much to do in preparing for wealth transfer with 22% of business owners having not yet started any sort of wealth transfer preparations.

### A Multifaceted Approach

There are many wealth planning challenges for business owners that don't apply to other individuals. As a business owner, chances are a substantial share of your personal assets are made up of your business assets. Additionally, a business owner's assets are often illiquid, leading to a greater need for a broad approach. In addition to common

planning considerations for individuals – tax and estate planning, retirement planning and inheritance planning – a comprehensive wealth transfer plan for a business owner should encompass a broader range of considerations including business succession planning and family dynamics.

### Start the Conversation

To begin the process, the first thing an owner should do is begin to have a conversation with a trusted financial or legal advisor. This individual can help the owner identify some of the areas they must reflect on as they begin their planning. Ultimately, the business owner will need the guidance of tax, legal and wealth planning professionals to create a comprehensive long-term plan that meets their needs. This sounds expensive but in fact can be the key to maximizing economic benefits for owners transitioning out of their business. Those without a solid plan are far more likely to miss the financial benefits that those with an estate plan and tax strategy enjoy.

### Strategies for Wealth Transfer

A professional team – Business owners can benefit from the support and guidance of qualified tax, legal and wealth planning professionals to create a long-term plan.  
Take inventory & prepare – Essential documents and information you will need or should create include:

Business Valuation – understanding the true value of your business will help you make an informed decision.  
Buy-sell agreement – a prearranged contractual agreement between a buyer and a seller, defining triggering events – such as voluntary termination, death or total disability – for a sale and outlining price and other terms.

Business ownership documents/shareholder agreements  
Someday, the business you've worked hard for could become your legacy. But leaving important decisions until a time of transition could create unnecessary stress and financial strain – far from ideal conditions for coming to a favorable arrangement.

Solidifying an exit or succession plan and wealth transfer strategy helps ensure that your business and your estate will transition as smoothly as possible when the time comes.

*Written by Karla Krehbiel, Regional President, Johnson Bank.*



# LET'S TALK TALENT!

## State funds \$1 million ad campaign aimed at attracting talent from Chicago Area

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) launched a \$1 million marketing campaign to encourage young professionals in the Chicago area to consider living and working in Wisconsin.

The campaign, which places an emphasis on reaching millennials via popular social media platforms they use every day, began in January and runs through the end of June. It also includes ads to encourage out-of-state alumni from Wisconsin colleges and universities to consider returning to the state.

The campaign conveys the central idea that Wisconsin is "more you." Here you can be more, mean more, create more impact and have more, making Wisconsin a better fit for you. Ads contrast life here with Chicago, highlighting shorter commute times, lower cost of living, lower taxes and numerous recreational, social and cultural opportunities.

There is another \$6.8 million earmarked to expand this initiative but it has not been given final approval. The bill is now in the Senate and is expected to be on the session agenda on March 20th.



Key elements of the digital campaign include:

- > Paid social media posts aimed at users ages 21 to 35 within a 25-mile radius of downtown Chicago
- > Facebook ads using the new "Canvas" platform and video-enabled Instagram Stories
- > Audio and video ads for the same targeted audience streaming on Pandora and YouTube
- > Geotargeted mobile ads on popular websites and apps
- > Application ads that dynamically calculate commute times and cost-of-living comparisons; and
- > Paid search advertising on Google and Bing search engines.

## Workforce Advancement Training Grants now available

Each year, the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Board provides grants to Wisconsin companies seeking to develop their workforce. These funds - called the Workforce Advancement Training Grant - promote increased investment in the development of incumbent workers, support career pathways and expand technical college training and technical assistance services to business and industry.

Gateway Technical College will work with local companies to apply for training grant funds that meet the company's needs under the program guidelines. Grants typically range from \$2,500 to \$200,000. Interested companies may contact Kate Walker, Director of Operations - Business & Workforce Solutions at Gateway Technical College at [walkerk@gtc.edu](mailto:walkerk@gtc.edu) or 262.898.7410.

*"There is always a way to improve productivity and quality. If you don't change and test yourself, you will never know how far you can develop a process and how much you can develop a person. If you want to continue to improve your bottom line, you have to find ways to drive down manufacturing costs and improve on-time delivery. We did that through training."*

*- Joe Mierzejewski, General Manager, Bradshaw Medical*

## KENOSHA COUNTY COMPANIES ENCOURAGED TO GET INVOLVED WITH INSPIRE SE WISCONSIN



Inspire Southeast Wisconsin is a powerful web-based platform that provides a central hub where area students (grade 6-12) and educators - including those in Kenosha Unified School District - can actively interact with local employers and career coaches to explore a variety of industries and employers in our region. Participation is free and open to any industry or sector in the region. Learn more by visiting [kaba.org/inspireSEWI](http://kaba.org/inspireSEWI) or contacting Brooke Infusino at [binfusino@kaba.org](mailto:binfusino@kaba.org).

# ON LEADERSHIP

## This is what it's come to? | by Aleta Norris

Today I was talking to yet another executive whose manufacturing company is struggling with turnover issues. He reported 100% churn at the front line for this company. The topic of our conversation related to support for front line leads and supervisors. I shared some examples with this executive related to how we have made a difference in an employee's desire to STAY....rather than CHURN...by equipping leaders to **improve the employee experience**.

Before I share these simple examples, let me set the stage just a bit:

- > Today's frontline workforce is in the driver's seat. Employers need these people more than these people need any particular employer.
- > Organizations today are rallied around the importance of engagement. Employees WANT to be engaged. A key factor of engagement is fulfillment. If an employee does not feel fulfilled, they will not be engaged.
- > Turnover in manufacturing companies, in particular, would suggest that employees are not fulfilled in their places of employment. If they are not fulfilled, they are likely not engaged. If they are not engaged, they will likely not stay for long.

What can your front line leaders do about this? A couple of simple things can make a difference:

- > When a new employee arrives at work on their first day, your leads and supervisors can say the words, "Welcome! It's great to have you here and on our team. I look forward to working with you." You've just increased the length of their tenure.
- > During the first week, leads and supervisors can acknowledge employees who come to work and who come to work on time. On day two or three, they might make a passing comment, "I want to thank you. Surprisingly, we are not always fortunate enough to have employees who come to work and who come to work on time. I've noticed for two days in a row, you're here and you've been on time. It may be a simple thing, but I appreciate it. Thank you." You've just increased the likelihood that this employee will repeat this behavior.....and also that this employee feels noticed and appreciated."

Two simple examples. This executive replied "This is what it's come to?" Yes, unless what you've always done is working for you.

Aleta Norris provides an ongoing column on developing better leadership skills. She is a leadership expert and Principal at Living as a Leader LLC.



## One step to increased employee retention | by Jonathan Reynolds

Let's face it. When we forecast our annual budgets, we calculate how many new hires we need, how much we are willing to spend, and what resources we will use to bring them inhouse. But how accurately are you measuring employee retention within your organization and the cost that goes along with turnover? Moreover, what are you doing to ensure your top performers remain engaged and happy working for your organization?

One of the most important steps you can take to increase employee retention is outlining expected deliverables for the position BEFORE the interview process.

This entails putting in writing all things the new hire needs to achieve in the first 30 days, first quarter and first year. This step is important for the following reasons.

1. It will ensure that your hiring team is on the same page and that any questions or concerns about the role are flushed out before interviewing beings. In addition, this helps paint a very clear picture for the candidate on what "success" look like for this position.
2. It will provide a better platform for a strong interview with engaging questions and answers.
3. It will lead to better performance from your new hire. Once you accurately define deliverables with specific timelines and expected results, you can sculpt your interview questions around those deliverables. Having strong interview questions around performance will lead to hiring better quality candidates that will meet your company's goals and objectives.



Jonathan Reynolds is CEO at Titus Talent & Certified Partner at The Predictive Index

# YLINK: YOUNG LEADERS IN KENOSHA

## YP Week - featuring the Future 5 YP Awards - is coming up in April!

YPWeek brings together key leaders in the community at purposefully chosen locations that integrate the unique cultural assets in Kenosha County with meaningful social interaction.

Encourage your company's young leaders to take part in this year's YPWeek activities! YP Week in Kenosha will include the Future 5 Young Professional Awards program - a community awards program managed by YLink. Future 5 honors five individuals who live or work in the Kenosha area, and who are positively influencing quality of life in our community through professional accomplishments, community involvement, civic engagement, leadership and inspiring vision for Kenosha's future.

YLink is excited to announce the 2018 Future 5 winners:

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| > Annie Bruss, Jack Andrea | > Vince Montemurro,   |
| > Mathew Collins,          | Riley Construction    |
| Kenosha County Parks       | > Sabrina Morgan-Hill |
| Division                   | Gateway Technical     |
| > Kerry Korn, Uline        | College               |

*"Being recognized as a Future 5 really put some of my accomplishments and the impact I've made in the community in perspective. Receiving this prestigious award from a great organization like YLink reassured me that what I am doing really does impact the community."*

- Jake McGhee, 2015 Future 5 Winner



Future 5 Class of 2017



## YP Week Calendar of Events

- > April 22 - Craft Cocktail Mixology 101
- > April 23 - Kenosha Speaker Crawl: Millennials with Moxie
- > April 25 - Downtown Kenosha Housing Tour
- > April 26 - **Future 5 Young Professional Awards**
- > April 27 - Pop-up Dinner Party at Jack Andrea
- > April 28 - Paint-by-Numbers Community Mural

Read more about these exciting events at [ypweek.com/communities/kenosha](http://ypweek.com/communities/kenosha).



## Nonprofit Board Development Program Class of 2017

Fourteen young professionals recently graduated from YLink's annual Nonprofit Board Development Program and are ready to serve their community!

The program trains and educates young professionals interested in serving on local non-profit boards. These participants learned about nonprofit structure, strategic planning, financial management, legal & ethical responsibilities and fundraising.

A social was held in February with local nonprofit leaders and community members. Printed lookbooks are available if you're interested in learning more about the graduates. Please contact Brooke Infusino at [binfusino@kaba.org](mailto:binfusino@kaba.org).



# DOWNTOWN KENOSHA, INC. (DKI)

## DKI Executive Director Nicole Thomsen: 'I expect 2018 to be a great year for downtown Kenosha'

The Stella (aka Heritage House), the Lofts2, the Residences at Library Park, Iron Horse Winery (pictured right)...these are just some of the exciting new developments expected to be complete in 2018. Other projects such as the Creative Space, Frontida Assisted Living's headquarters, and several new restaurants including Vinny's and Slip 56 have opened their doors recently, adding to the energy and critical mass in Downtown Kenosha.

In 2017, 26 new businesses, organizations and service facilities opened in the downtown area. Thomsen is excited about that momentum and to see that growth continue into 2018.



## *In other news...*

Read more about these stories and others at [kaba.org/news/list](http://kaba.org/news/list).

### KABA'S HEATHER WESSLING ELECTED PRESIDENT OF WEDA

The Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA) unanimously elected Heather Wessling, Vice President of Economic Development for the Kenosha Area Business Alliance, to serve a second three-year term on its board of directors and to take over as 2018 board president. The election took place at WEDA's annual meeting held during the 2018 Governor's Conference on Economic Development on February 1.

WEDA is the statewide professional association for economic development with more than 450 members working in the public, non-profit and private sectors. WEDA provides education, networking and advocacy services for its members.

### CONSIDERING YOUR EXPORT OPTIONS? LEARN ABOUT WEDC'S GLOBAL TRADE VENTURES

Whether you're looking for customers or distributors to help you expand your global reach (or both), WEDC's targeted trade ventures will help you build the relationships necessary for increased international sales. Companies receive a high-level country briefing from WEDC's market development director before commencing a well-organized tour of the country's major markets. At each stop, you will participate in pre-arranged, customized meetings with companies whose needs or capabilities align with your export objectives.

Learn more at [wedc.org/programs-and-resources/global-trade-ventures](http://wedc.org/programs-and-resources/global-trade-ventures).

### WISCONSIN AMONG STATES LAUNCHING NATIONAL TECH SKILLS NETWORK

Twenty governors from across the country - including Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker - are joining together to form the Skillful State Network (SSN). The SSN is a collaboration to transform the U.S. labor market at scale to one that is skills-based, in which people can demonstrate or obtain the skills needed for good digital economy jobs.

The SSN will advance practices and ideas that states can adopt to achieve their workforce goals, including aligning education with industry; providing robust data to job seekers; and training employers on skills-based practices.



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Vice President of  
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