

Perfectly Centered

Triannual Newsletter of the
Kenosha Area Business Alliance(KABA)

WINTER 2023

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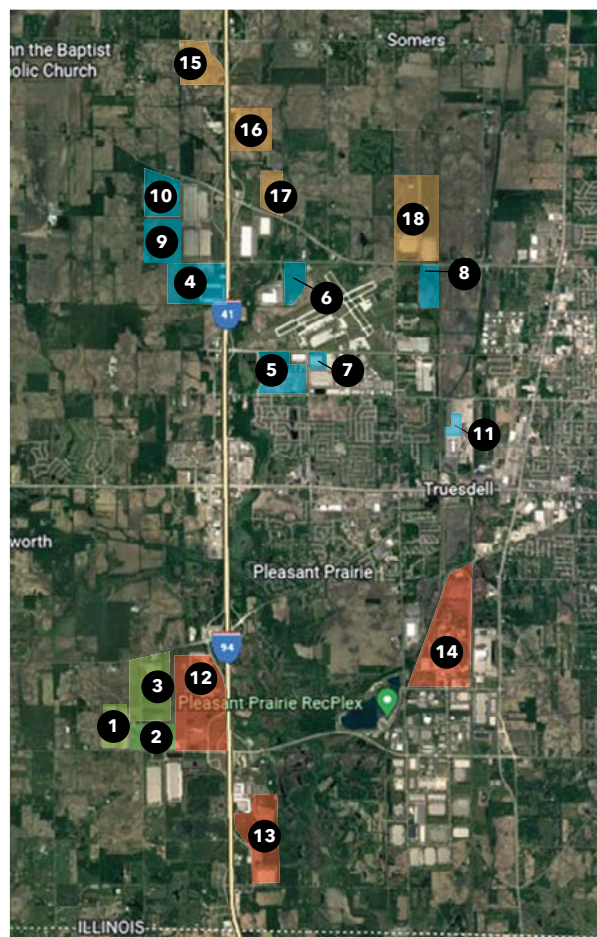


@KABAConnectHere

Kenosha County experiencing a surge in development activity

If you've driven down I-94 recently, you've probably noticed a lot of construction activity. Everywhere you look, there seems to be cranes in the air and walls going up.

Currently, there is more than five million SF of recently completed developments; more than six and a half million SF of development currently under construction or in process; and nearly 3.5 million SF of additional planned/proposed developments.



BRISTOL

1. Northpoint Development
2. Bristol Business Park/ GXO Logistics/ Entrematic
3. Bristol Highlands Commerce Center/ ODW Logistics (Haribo)/Visual Pak

KENOSHA

4. 94 Logistics Park/ Amazon
5. Greenway Corporate Park/Heartland Produce
6. Venture One/Amazon
7. Panattoni
8. Northpoint Development/Uline
9. Future Uline expansion
10. Zilber/Silgan Container
11. Opus/Midwest Transportation Facility

PLEASANT PRAIRIE

12. Prairie Highlands Corporate Park/ Haribo/Nexus Pharmaceuticals
13. Stateline 94/Fresenius
14. Re-development of Power Plant

SOMERS

15. Flint 94 Commerce Center
16. Becknell
17. HSA
18. First Industrial/Ariens

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

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 the (past) President...

PARTING THOUGHTS

For the past nearly 19 years this has been my job and a large part of my identity. I relocated to Kenosha, along with my wife (fiancé at the time), from West Michigan to take on this role and succeed John Bechler as KABA President in the spring of 2004. John had served approximately 19 years as the leader of various Kenosha economic development entities and organizations which eventually came to be known as KABA through a merger of the Kenosha Area Development Corporation and the Kenosha Manufacturers & Employers Association in 1996.

Much of the groundwork had been laid and significant tools, resources, and assets assembled to support an aggressive economic development effort. And significant success had been achieved with respect to industrial development, business expansion, attraction, and financing. Major developments like LakeView Corporate Park and the Business Park of Kenosha had become award winning case-study development projects that helped the community diversify its economy and add jobs after American Motors/Chrysler (and several other large firms) closed sizable industrial plants in the area.

The challenge when I arrived was to build on prior success, keep the positive momentum going, and ensure that the community and KABA did not become complacent with respect to economic development. And whether they said it or not, many people were very likely thinking, "Just don't screw this up kid." When I stepped into this role, I had just turned 28 years old and was relatively inexperienced for a leadership position like this. Although, I was incredibly motivated to prove that the KABA Board/Search Committee had made a good decision in hiring me and providing me with this opportunity.

Well . . . after almost 19 years, my time in this position has come to an end. I will leave it to others to evaluate how they think I/we have done in terms of keeping Kenosha County's

economy (and economic development organization) moving forward. I am thankful to many people that I have had the pleasure of getting to know and work with over the past

two decades: KABA team members, business & community leaders, and economic development partners. I am proud of many of the projects and developments we helped to secure for the Kenosha Area. At the end of the day, I hope the community, our investors, and our partners feel like we have done our part to put KABA and Kenosha County in a better place than they were 19 years ago.

And, I know that the work is not anywhere near finished nor complete. Recent research that we initiated with the Wisconsin Policy Forum details that, despite significant gains in employment and property value(s), the county still lags peer communities in various measures of income, education, and health.

I wish the KABA team and organization much continued success and sincerely appreciate the opportunity I was given to be a part of this entity and its work during my time as KABA's President.

Best Wishes,



Todd Battle
President,
Kenosha Area Business Alliance
April 2004 - December 2022



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT KABA?

Upcoming **Business Lunch**: *Winning the War for Talent*, presented by State Bank of the Lakes

Date: Friday, February 17
Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Location: The Club at Strawberry Creek
Cost: \$50; includes a copy of Chris' book *Winning the War for Talent: Recruit, Retain, and Develop The Talent Your Business Needs to Survive and Thrive*
More information and registration is available at kaba.org/news/events.



Please join us for *Business Lunch*, a program series intended to educate and inform KABA investors, partners, and the community at-large.

Participants will enjoy lunch, networking, and a keynote presentation focused on talent attraction, retention, and development.

Chris Czarnik is a national career search expert with more than 12 years of job search training and speaking experience. He created the innovative approach to job search, known as The Human Search Engine® by working with thousands of job seekers over more than a decade.



Award-winning author
and motivational speaker
Chris Czarnik

There will also be a panel discussion with two local employers about innovative ways they are finding and upskilling local talent. JP Moran, CEO of LMI Packaging, will talk about the manufacturer's partnership with Kenosha's three local colleges to provide good paying jobs, real world work experience and tuition benefits for college students. Toolamation's Garret Deieso will discuss their after school apprenticeship program for high school students using the Titans of Industry model.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR THEIR INVESTMENT IN KABA

AXION RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
axionrms.com

4FRONT HPD NA
4frontes.com

BACKYARD DREAM STUDIOS
backyarddreamstudios.com

DATA CABLE, INC.
datacable.com

DOUBLE E WORKPLACE SOLUTIONS LLC
eeworkplace.com

EDIBLE CUTS
ediblecuts.com

FIRST-RING INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT

ENTERPRISE, INC. (FIRE)
fire-nmtc.com

FLINT 94 COMMERCE CENTER
flintdevelopment.com

IBEW LOCAL 127
kenoshaelectricians127.com

KENOSHA HIGH SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED CURRICULUM
ktecschools.org

LAKESIDE STEEL & MFG. CO
lakesidesteel.net

LAKE COUNTY PIPE
lakecountypipe.com

MCHENRY SAVINGS BANK
mchenrysavings.com

ODW
odwlogistics.com

PARKER PLASTICS
parkerplastics.net

PATTON LAW OFFICE SC
pattonlawwi.com

RESIDEO GENESIS
resideo.com

RUSSELL ZIEMANN

THE DELI SOURCE
thedelisource.com

THIRD COAST RETINA
tcrmdcom

TRUE NORTH
pkamar.com

UA LOCAL 118
ualocal118.com

WOODVIEW GROUP
interstatepartners.com

WOODWRIGHTS
woodwrightscasework.com

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2022 OVATION AWARD WINNERS

The 2022 Ovation Awards was held in November at the UW – Parkside De Simone Arena. It was an inspiring night! Congratulations to all of our winners:

Business of the Year: **Heartland Produce Co.**
Small Business of the Year: **Finishing & Plating Service, Inc.**
Entrepreneur of the Year: **Mariam S. Darsot, Nexus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**
Forward Awards:
Herzing University
Kenosha Creative Space Inc.
Land-Quest Realty
Kutzler Express, Inc.
Liftpro, LLC

Thank you to everyone who joined us and to our generous sponsors, including Johnson Financial Group, The Trottier Insurance Group - Powered by M3 Insurance, UW-Parkside and BizTimes Media, for making it possible!

See photos of the event and video tributes to the winners at kaba.org/ovation-awards. Coverage of the evening and all the winners can be found at kaba.org/news/list.



HSA breaks ground on two more buildings in Kenosha County



Bristol Highlands Commerce Center West
groundbreaking in October



Highland Commerce Center of Somers
groundbreaking in November

Chicago-based commercial real estate development firm HSA Commercial Real Estate announced in November that it has started construction on two warehouses totaling 1.9 million square feet along the Interstate 94 corridor in Kenosha County. All are being built on a speculative basis without tenants lined up in advance.

The projects include:

- > A 918,844 SF distribution center located directly off I-94 at the Burlington Road interchange in Kenosha.
- > A 550,647 SF warehouse, the first of three buildings in the firm's new Bristol Highlands Commerce Center West project at the southeast corner of 136th Avenue and Wilmot Road in Kenosha. The new 82-acre warehouse park will total 1.3 million

"The I-94 corridor continued to see positive absorption in the third quarter, demonstrating the robust demand for modern warehouse space along this critical logistics artery, which has benefited from significant infrastructure investments in recent years. With these developments slated to deliver in Q2 and Q3 of 2023, we're fueling the pipeline of new, state-of-the-art facilities that are supporting continued business expansion."

— Robert Smietana, vice chairman and CEO,
HSA Commercial Real Estate

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A new development with office and retail space planned for 25-acre site west of I-94 in Kenosha

A Baltimore-based commercial real estate firm, St. John Properties, has submitted plans for a 25-acre office and retail space development for a vacant site northwest of 71st Street and 122nd Avenue in Kenosha. The development, called Kenosha Midpoint Center, hopes to attract restaurants, hospitality, and retailers, including gyms, paint and appliance stores.

Conceptual plans include a five-building first phase totaling 107,960 SF, which would consist of two office buildings, two retail buildings, and a mixed use retail/office building.



Kenosha County maintains Triple A bond rating

Kenosha County has maintained the highest bond rating achievable from Standard & Poors (S&P) for a second consecutive year. The Triple A (AAA) designation is not only an indication of the county's strong financial health, but also a mark of its ability to meet future financial commitments. It helps the county receive the lowest possible interest rates when securing funds.

In its report, S&P stated "the county will continue to show positive budgetary performance" and its "stable outlook reflects S&P Global Ratings' expectation the county will likely maintain balanced operation during an inflationary environment."



Square Roots officially opens its innovative indoor farming facility in Kenosha

Congratulations to Square Roots on the official opening of their indoor farming facility at the Gordon Food Service distribution center in Kenosha. This facility is the fourth Square Roots farm in North America, and the largest farm the company has built to date, with the capacity to produce more than 2.4 million packages of herbs and leafy greens annually. Square Roots was founded in 2016 by Tobias Peggs and Kimball Musk, brother of Elon Musk, in Brooklyn, NY.

SEEN ON SOCIAL...

@parkerplastics A little party never killed nobody! Our team in WI had a blast last weekend and everyone showed out on the #gatsby theme for @parkerplasticsinc's annual holiday party! We want to thank everyone for coming! #holidayparty #gatsbyparty #roaring20s #parkerplastics #manufacturing #manufacturingcareers



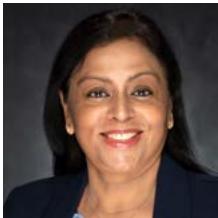
@ASYST-Technologies-LLC Today we delivered gifts to the Sharing Center for the families that ASYST "adopted" this holiday season. Our team was able to fulfill wish lists with clothes, toys, and so much more! The Sharing Center in Western Kenosha County assists people of all ages that are in immediate need of food and clothing. For more information, visit: thesharingcenter.net.

LET'S TALK TALENT

New leadership at Gateway Technical College, Kenosha Unified School District

There are some major changes at two of Kenosha County's most important educational institutions.

Gateway Technical College Board of Trustees members have selected Ritu Raju as Gateway Technical College's newest president, replacing retiring president Bryan Albrecht.



Rita Raju, President,
Gateway Technical
College

Raju was selected as part of an extensive, nationwide search and will begin her duties Jan. 5. She brings the skills and leadership gained from 18 years in higher education, most recently as vice president for Academic Affairs at Tarrant County College's Northeast Campus in Hurst, Texas, a position she's held since 2020. Prior to that, she served as dean for Advanced Manufacturing at Houston

Community College in Houston, Texas.

The Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education selected Jeffrey Weiss as its new superintendent. Weiss has served as an educator and educational leader since 1994, including serving as an assistant superintendent in the Racine Unified School District, superintendent in the Richmond School District, and most recently, superintendent of the South Milwaukee School District.



Jeffrey Weiss,
Superintendent,
Kenosha Unified
School District

Dr. Weiss is replacing Dr. Sue Savaglio-Jarvis who stepped down from the position at KUSD in June 2021. Dr. Beth Ormseth had been interim superintendent since that time.

KABA CATALYST2CAREERS TOUR PROGRAM HELP STUDENTS EXPLORE CAREERS

In partnership with local employers, KABA is coordinating several tours for students and educators in local school districts throughout the 2022-23 school year. These tours aim to provide students and educators with the opportunity to explore and understand careers in various in-demand industries throughout Kenosha County, including manufacturing, logistics & distribution, healthcare, and construction.

Interested in opening your doors to local high school groups, or discovering how your business can take part in providing career-based learning opportunities? Contact Brooke Infusino at binfusino@kaba.org.

The University of Wisconsin-Parkside was ranked #4 in social mobility by the U.S. News & World Report

The University of Wisconsin-Parkside has been named a top performer among public Midwest regional colleges and universities for social mobility by *U.S. News & World Report*, a metric that recognizes Parkside's success in supporting economically disadvantaged students throughout their journeys to graduation.

UW-Parkside is the fourth ranked public higher education institution across 12 states in the regional Midwest and top among UW comprehensives for increasing social mobility, according to the recently released and widely followed U.S. News 2022-2023 Best College rankings. Social mobility measures the extent to which schools elevate the standard of living for their low-income students.

Additionally, UW-Parkside also scored well in the rankings for diversity. Parkside is the fifth ranked public institution in the Midwest region for diversity and is ranked first among the top UW comprehensives in the same category, excluding the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

KABA MEMBER NEWS & NOTES

Read more about these stories and others at kaba.org/news/list.

KABA President Todd Battle left his position at end of December



KABA President Todd Battle left his position at the end of 2022 for a new role with Zilber Property Group, the Milwaukee-based real estate development firm with significant holdings throughout Southeast Wisconsin and Northern Illinois.

After more than 18 years leading KABA, Battle commented, "It has been a privilege and honor to serve as KABA's president. We relocated from Michigan in 2004 for this opportunity and it has turned out to be a great decision for me and my family." Battle and his family plan to remain in Kenosha.

During his tenure, Battle played a significant role in numerous development projects and forged relationships with key stakeholders. He said, "I am hopeful that our investors, partners, and supporters feel that the KABA organization is well positioned for additional success and community impact."

He also acknowledged that the opportunity to join Zilber was compelling, "I have worked with the Zilber team throughout my time in Kenosha. I have a lot of respect for their organization, the family-oriented culture, and their focus on delivering quality developments in the communities where they invest."

"I feel fortunate that I have an opportunity to make this career move without having to leave the community or up-root our family. Kenosha has become my adopted hometown, and this is a great opportunity to remain here, while also advancing my career." — Todd Battle

KABA Board Chair Jens Emerson thanked Battle for his long, productive tenure with KABA and wished him well, "Todd has led this important community organization for nearly two decades. He has done so with class and integrity, while producing impactful results. KABA and the Kenosha County Area have been the beneficiaries of Todd's good work and we are grateful for his service. We wish him well in his new role."

Emerson noted that the board is in the process of forming a search committee to identify Battle's successor. He said, "Our top priority as a board is to identify a high caliber, community-minded, economic development professional that can lead KABA for the next two decades. We have a phenomenal team in place, significant strengths as an organization, and a solid track-record of impactful economic development success. This is a very attractive role for the right candidate, and we are focused on identifying and hiring that individual."



KABA Vice President Heather Wessling Grosz takes new position in Nevada

Vice President Heather Wessling Grosz left her position at KABA on January 2, 2023 for a new role. She has accepted the position of Senior Vice President of Corporate Attraction with The Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN).

"KABA is very appreciative of Heather's outstanding contributions to our organization and community," said Jens Emerson, Chair of the KABA Board of Directors. "While it's not ideal to lose two such important members of our staff, we have a strong team in place and are looking forward to bringing in exciting new leadership that will lead Kenosha County's economic development efforts going forward."

With a 22-year history as an economic development professional, Heather has cultivated a team approach throughout her career to secure highly impactful investments in the communities she has served. She served as President of the Wisconsin Economic Development Association, the State's network for economic development professionals, and additionally served on

Continued on page 11 >

LET'S TALK TALENT!

UW-Parkside receives \$1.2 million in federal funding for Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) aimed at helping more adults in the region to complete four-year college degrees

UW-Parkside's Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) project will be launched this fall and will be funded over five years through the TRIO Program, a federally funded grant program that provides services to individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Educational Opportunity Center will be housed at the UW-Parkside Center for Adult and Returning Students (CARS), which will oversee the program.

The EOC aims to serve 850 participants annually and will be staffed with three full-time employees who will be hired by UW-Parkside this fall. It will target adults of working age in Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth counties in the southeast and Lake and McHenry counties in northeast Illinois. The population-dense target area is home to a high number of residents with low baccalaureate achievement rates who would benefit from an EOC at UW-Parkside. The EOC will give priority to low-income, minority, and veteran adults, as well as first-generation students.

The program aims to close existing equity gaps in degree completion, which in turn can help program participants

improve their earning potential and career advancement opportunities.

The UW-Parkside EOC will work in partnership with two- and four-year higher education institutions in the region, county workforce development offices, veteran services offices, and correctional facilities. The goal is to have participants apply for college admissions and enroll in postsecondary education. Participants without a secondary degree will have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma or its equivalent. Partnering institutions include Gateway Technical College, UW-Whitewater, and Herzing University.

"The EOC at UW-Parkside will equip hundreds of area residents with resources that can bolster their educational achievements, career success, and overall quality of life."

— Dana Rodgers, adult student program manager for Professional and Continuing Education at UW-Parkside

40 MINUTES.



...that's all it takes to make a meaningful impact on a student's life.

Since 1997, KABA has managed a school-based mentoring program that empowers both young people and the adults working with them. The KABA Mentor Program matches Kindergarten through 5th grade students with volunteer mentors from the Kenosha business community. The purpose of the program is to establish a caring relationship and improve motivation to learn, self-esteem, and academic performance. Many elementary schools within Kenosha Unified School District need mentors at this time.

If you're interested, please explore kaba.org/kaba-mentor-program or contact Brooke Infusino at binfusino@kaba.org.

Carthage approves new building, making room for new engineering classrooms, labs

A new Carthage College building is now under construction and is expected to be completed by May 2023. The new facilities operations building will open up space in Lentz Hall on campus, allowing the school to expand its engineering program by adding new classrooms, labs and offices.

"With the number of first-year engineering students having doubled this year, the changes at Lentz Hall are much needed, and the work will be completed for Fall 2023 students."

— David Timmerman, provost and chief academic officer



ON LEADERSHIP

Are You More Special Than Those Around You? | by Aleta Norris

In our own lives, we recognize how a variety of complex factors shape our actions. We know, for example, if we showed up late for an appointment what our reason is. If someone else were late, we might assume it's because they can't stick to a schedule, they're lazy, or they don't view timeliness as a priority.

In psychology, this is called the Fundamental Attribution Error. This means that for ourselves, we can identify the situations and environmental conditions that went into shaping our actions. But in others, we only see the surface, so we don't stop to think about everything they may be struggling with, thinking about, or facing. No one holds a sign around their neck that says, "I'm worried about my mother's health while she gets medical tests today, and that's why I seem distant at today's meeting. Or, "I have a special needs child, and that is what makes my schedule less predictable than others." Seeing someone check out at a meeting, we may think they're disengaged or just don't care about this project. Or working with someone who requires more flexibility in their schedule may feel unfair unless you realize the unseen challenges.

It takes time and effort to get at the true motivations of others. But like peeling an onion, there are always more layers than what you see on the surface.

One way to begin softening our very-human tendency toward Fundamental Attribution Error is a practice called sonder. You can practice right now, especially if you are in public. The idea of sonder refers to the profound feeling of realizing that everyone, including strangers you pass on the street, has a life as rich and complex as your own. Practice sonder on the street, the train, a coffee shop or anywhere people are around.

Look at the people surrounding you right now or think about the people you saw on the street today or in the restaurant at lunch. Realize that they all have lived rich and full lives just like you, full of hardships and pain, hopes and dreams, love and heartbreak, with boring, mundane tasks and moments of pure joy. They all have perspectives on life and belief systems and goals for the future.

Now, you could pick any one of those people and, through sonder, imagine what their story is like. The point of sonder is not to be correct in our imagination but to open ourselves up to the realization that rich and complex possibilities exist in the lives of everyone we meet.

The same is true for the people you lead. Remember that we can see below the surface of our own actions, but we don't automatically think about the backstories that drive and shape the lives and actions of other people, including our employees. It takes an extra effort to see what's driving their attitudes, beliefs and actions. For leaders, it's necessary to take an additional step and learn about the deeper motivations of your team.

(Excerpted from *Live As A Leader: Tools and Inspiration to Transform Yourself, Your Team, and Your Life*, by Aleta Norris, Nancy Lewis and John Rutkiewicz, 2022)
Aleta Norris is a leadership expert and Principal at Living as a Leader LLC.



INSPIRE 2022 WAS A DAY FILLED WITH ENERGY, INSIGHT, CONNECTION & SERVICE

Thank you to the 550+ attendees, speakers, volunteers, & generous sponsors! *Inspire* is a premier leadership development experience featuring high-caliber national and regional speakers & experts providing inspirational content to elevate your personal and professional leadership journey. We can't wait to see you in 2023!

See photos & videos on KABA's Facebook & YouTube pages: @KABACoachHere.



In other news...

Read more about these stories and others at kaba.org/news/list.

R+D NOW A PART OF KRONES GROUP

Krones, a leading manufacturer of filling and packaging solutions, has acquired a majority stake of R+D Custom Automation LLC (R+D). Based in Trevor, Wisconsin, R+D supplies machinery and equipment for the production and filling of containers for the pharmaceutical industry.



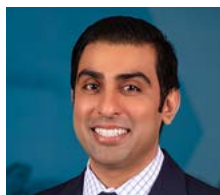
TWO KENOSHA COMPANIES TAKE HOME WISCONSIN INNOVATION AWARDS

The Wisconsin Innovation Awards took place this past October in Madison, and winners from eight different industry categories were announced.

Kenosha-based SoFresh, Inc. took home the Innovation Award in the agriculture category. SoFresh manufactures food-saving packaging materials that use natural, plant-derived concentrates to prevent molding.

Errund, Inc., also from Kenosha, won the People's Choice Award. Errund provides a one-stop, affordable and highly automated online system for cleaning companies to handle all their operations.

NEXUS PHARMACEUTICALS ANNOUNCES USMAN AHMED AS PRESIDENT & CEO



Usman Ahmed

Nexus Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a healthcare company and certified diverse supplier with extensive operations in Pleasant Prairie, has announced that Usman Ahmed has been named as President and Chief Executive Officer. Mariam S. Darsot, who has been acting as President and Chief Executive Officer since

the founding of the company in 2003, will remain active as Chair of the Board of Directors.

TWO LOCAL LEADERS ARE INAUGURAL TITAN 100 RECIPIENTS

Patrick Booth, CEO of CCB Technology, and Keith Smith, President of Vonco Products, have been named to the list of 2023 Wisconsin Titan 100. The program recognizes Wisconsin's Top 100 CEO's & C-level executives. They are the area's most accomplished business leaders in their industry using criteria that includes demonstrating exceptional leadership, vision, and passion. They will be honored at the annual Titan 100 awards celebration in January at the Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee.

HERZING UNIVERSITY-KENOSHA RECEIVES GRANT FOR VETERAN-FOCUSED CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

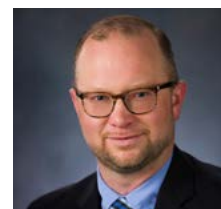
Herzing University has been awarded a federal U.S. Department of Education (DOE) grant for the development of additional veteran-related resources.

The \$600,000 grant will be funded over three years and will allow Herzing to develop a dedicated Center of Excellence for Veteran Student Success (CEVSS) to help expand the institution's ongoing goals of providing valuable resources and opportunities for veterans to both reenter the civilian workforce and locate specialized support services to help them transition back to post-military life.

Currently, 380 veteran students are enrolled in Herzing programs across the country, including 56 veteran students living within commuting distance of its Kenosha campus.

PLEASANT PRAIRIE VILLAGE BOARD SELECTS ERIC RINDFLEISCH AS THE NEXT VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

The Pleasant Prairie Village Board has selected Eric Rindfleisch as the next Village of Pleasant Prairie Administrator. Rindfleisch brings nearly 20 years of local government experience, including the past five years as City Administrator for the City of Onalaska in La Crosse County and previous experience as Director of Administration for the City of Lodi and Village Administrator for McFarland and Edgar communities. He is a WI-Certified Public Manager with a Master of Public and Nonprofit Administration degree from Metropolitan State University in Minnesota and a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota.



Eric Rindfleisch

Jockey-owned Coopers Uptown now open!

Coopers Uptown officially opened in October. It features a gift shop, specialty food items and candy, boutique clothing and Kenosha-branded apparel. The café offers soda fountain malts, shakes and ice cream, with a full-service menu for breakfast and lunch, a coffee bar and a humidor for cigar aficionados.

In 2021, Jockey International purchased the former Jack Andrea building, 2401 60th St., across the street from its headquarters in Kenosha's Uptown neighborhood. The name of the café and gift shop is a nod to the founder of Jockey, Reverend Samuel T. Cooper.



Modern Apothecary announces purchase of new location

Modern Apothecary, a beloved downtown pharmacy and gift shop, has announced that they will be relocating and expanding into a new building at 5700 6th Avenue. There are renovations underway at their new space and they expect to move in by Spring 2023.



Madison-based Gorman & Co. has begun construction on the Uptown Lofts in the section of the Uptown Kenosha neighborhood destroyed in 2020. Once completed, the mixed-use development will consist of 20,000 SF of retail space and 71 new, affordable residential units. A grocery store and restaurant that had previously been located in the neighborhood will have space in the new building and the Kenosha Public Library will be opening a new 7,000 SF Children's library in the space. Watch for additional updates to be announced soon!

< Continued from page 7

multiple non-profit organizations for more than 15 years.

Heather relocated her family from the Town of Rome, Wisconsin in 2013 to take a position at KABA. Previously, she served in various economic development roles throughout Wisconsin, Minnesota, and New Jersey.

"It has been an honor and my pleasure to serve Kenosha County and the State of Wisconsin as an economic development professional for more than two decades," said Heather. "My passion and willingness to serve is both professional and personal for me. I've enjoyed the people that I've worked with, from the new corporate citizens just moving in, to the Kenosha businesses and residents that have been here for decades. I see great things happening for Kenosha County now and into the future." — Heather Wessling Grosz

During her tenure at KABA, Heather played a significant role in numerous development projects including the strategy to establish the Salem Business Park and redevelopment efforts to rebuild portions of the Uptown neighborhood after the riots on 22nd Ave - working with the developer Gorman & Company, the City of Kenosha, Kenosha County, and various statewide partners (WHEDA and WEDC) to advance the project. She has also served on the board of directors for the Kenosha Innovation Neighborhood.

Heather and her husband Adam will be relocating to the Lake Tahoe/Reno, NV region for her new role. "I will miss the Kenosha community greatly but look forward to a new chapter in a beautiful area of the country."

"Heather has been an incredibly important member of our team over the past decade," said outgoing KABA President Todd Battle. "She has contributed greatly to Kenosha County's economic development success since joining KABA in 2013. She will be missed as an economic development professional and as a caring and passionate advocate for this community. Our loss is Western Nevada's gain, and we wish her much continued success in her new role."



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