



Brought to you by



Celebration *of* Leadership

Thursday, March 9, 2017 | Old National Events Plaza



A New Name

FOR ST. MARY'S ONGOING LEGACY

St. Mary's Health has a strong tradition of providing our community with high-quality, compassionate, personalized healthcare. Our Mission of service calls us to care for all those in need and to seek creative and innovative ways to continue to advance and enhance the care we provide. In 2012, St. Mary's Health and St. Vincent joined together as one statewide health system to share our knowledge and best practices to enhance the delivery of healthcare across the entire state of Indiana. And, together, we continue to improve access to the services that our communities tell us they need. It's a partnership that we are proud of, and today we take the next step in showcasing that partnership and our shared Mission to our community.

Beginning April 20, 2017, St. Mary's will be known as St. Vincent.

Our health ministry has served this community since 1872, and we will serve our community for years to come.



St. Vincent



ASCENSION

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION COLLABORATION
PROJECT ARTS EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICE
TENANT COLONEL REGINALD P. GIBSON OUTSTANDING INNOVATION REGIONAL IMPACT
SPORTSMANSHIP VISIONARY WILLIE EFFIE THOMAS WINTERNHEIMER/LAMAR PUBLIC SERVICE
COLLABORATION CONSENSUS PASSION GIFTS TALENTS TRUSTEE FUN LOVE PROUD BEAUTIFUL
PROJECTS EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICE
TENANT COLONEL REGINALD P. GIBSON OUTSTANDING INNOVATION REGIONAL IMPACT
SPORTSMANSHIP VISIONARY WILLIE EFFIE THOMAS WINTERNHEIMER/LAMAR PUBLIC SERVICE

Celebration of Leadership

Leadership Evansville proudly presents the 22nd annual Celebration of Leadership brought to you by Fifth Third Bank.

The Celebration of Leadership is a conscious effort to seek and honor individuals, projects, and businesses and organizations that make significant collaborative contributions to our community.

Evansville and the surrounding communities are full of people working within organizations and on projects. It is Leadership Evansville's intention to demonstrate and celebrate the depth of our citizens' commitment to our community by identifying as many nominees as possible. Therefore, a special thanks to those people who took the time to recognize and nominate tonight's honorees. Without them, there would be no celebration.

Leadership Evansville

The mission of Leadership Evansville has remained viable over a number of years. The organization has realized that its meaning continues to change as we discover new ways to build and sustain our community into the future.

Founded in 1976 by a group of future-thinking local leaders, Leadership Evansville's original commitment to community-wide betterment remains unique and strong. Today, effective 21st century leadership programs exist to strengthen and transform communities and to make them "leaderful." To do this, Leadership Evansville:

- Brings together people with different talents, gifts and perspectives;
- Transforms these individuals into servant leaders who embrace the concept of community trusteeship and the collaborative process;
- Develops in them an understanding of how today's leaders function and teaches them the skills to apply this knowledge;

- Teaches effective processes, especially envisioning a preferred future, consensus decision making and collaboration;
- Provides real-life opportunities to use the knowledge, skills and processes through practice and performance; and
- Inspires people to identify their passion for community betterment, to make a commitment to create a better community and to take responsibility for making sustainable changes.

Leadership Evansville, through its staff and volunteers, teaches these attitudes, skills and processes to adults, youth, organizations, not-for-profits, businesses, educational institutions, neighborhood associations, churches and other leadership programs locally and at the state and national levels. Leadership Evansville is committed to making its programming available to all who want to be 21st century leaders.



PO Box 2449 • Evansville, Indiana 47728
812-425-3828



LeadershipEvansville.org



Diverse servant leaders transforming community.

—Leadership Evansville Mission Statement

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Underwriters and Committees

Leadership Evansville is proud to recognize the Celebration of Leadership Underwriters

Includes underwriters as of February 6, 2017

Acropolis Restaurant
Alcoa
Becki Alcorn
Anonymous Donors
AstraZeneca
Atlas Van Lines
Chris Berneking Photography
City of Evansville through the Department of
Metropolitan Development
Doug and Amanda Berry
Deaconess
Evansville Courier & Press
Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library
EXTEND Group
Fifth Third Bank
Hafer PSC
M. Susan Hardwick
IBEW Local #16
Ivy Tech Community College

Court Kull
La Campirana
Leadership Evansville Board of Directors
Lochmueller Group
Lynn Miller Pease and Family
Shawn and Brooke Norris
NFP Clippinger Financial Group
Old National Bank
OneMain Financial
St. Mary's Health
SABIC
Stage One Media
Sycamore Services
Torian, Hofmann, Dillow and Flittner
Toyota
Tropicana
United Companies
Susan Vaughn
Vectren Corporation
The Women's Hospital

Celebration of Leadership Committees

Chairpersons

Marilyn Brenton Court Kull

Emcees

Stephanie Roland Scott Wylie

Arrangements and Underwriting

Lynn Miller Pease Jennifer Cooke
Julie Moore

Copy Editing

Jennifer Cooke Julie Moore
Kassidy Kinner-Green Jacqi Reichel

Selection Committee

Alisha Aman Dane Hancock
Paulnetta Barner Brian Holtz
Billy Bolin Mark Moore
Marilyn Brenton Scott O'Daniel
Abraham Brown Darrell Ragland
Don Crankshaw John Raisor
Kimberly Dunning Dave Schutte
Kelly Gates Erika Taylor

Nominations Committee

Andrea Adams Pam Hight
Alisha Aman Austin Maxheimer
Karen Conaway Blaize Anne McKim
Jennifer Briggs Dave Schutte
Mallorie Cloum DeAndre Wilson
Michael Davis Kelsey Wright
Phyllip Davis Scott Wylie

Publications

Anthony Robison - Ivy Tech Community College
Vince Stone - Atlas Van Lines

American Sign Language Interpreter

Marge Luebbehusen

Celebration of Leadership

Old National Events Plaza • Downtown Evansville, Indiana
March 9, 2017

5:15 p.m. **Boom Squad**

5:30 p.m. **Welcome—**

Court Kull, *Fifth Third Bank Senior Vice President & Celebration of Leadership Co-Chair*
Shawn Norris, *Leadership Evansville Board President*
Lynn Miller Pease, *Leadership Evansville Chief Executive Officer*
Marilyn Brenton, *Celebration of Leadership Co-Chair*

5:40 p.m. **Recognition of Nominees and Nominators—Stephanie Roland and Scott Wylie**

Presentation of Celebration of Leadership Awards—Event Underwriters

Individual Awards—Arts • Community & Neighborhood • Education • Environment • Government & Public Service • Health & Social Service

Individual Division Award

Project or Program Awards—Arts • Community & Neighborhood • Education • Environment • Government & Public Service • Health & Social Service

Project or Program Division Award

Business or Organization Awards—Arts • Community & Neighborhood • Education • Environment • Government & Public Service • Health & Social Service

Business or Organization Division Award

Special Awards—Event Underwriters

Outstanding Innovation Award

Spirit Award

“We Believe” Award

Community Collaboration Award

Sam Featherstone Youth Awards

Bryce Jordan Servant Leader Award

Susan Kelly Jordan Leader in
Courage Award

Sportsmanship Award

Sara B. Davies Award

Willie Effie Thomas Diversity Award

Winternheimer/LaMar Public Service Award

Shirley James “Greening the Community” Award

Lt. Col. Reginald Gibson Award

Regional Impact Award

Trusteeship Award

Philanthropy Award

Civic Engagement Award

Visionary Award

Leaders In Technology Award

Nancy Sieben Koehler Sustainability Award

Lifetime Awards

7:00 p.m. **Closing—Stephanie Roland and Scott Wylie**

And the Nominees Are...

INDIVIDUAL

ARTS

Carol Dallinger—Carol Dallinger has been shaping the minds of local college students for more than 40 years. Carol's musical expertise and nurturing leadership has made her an invaluable asset to Evansville's arts culture. *Nominated by: Maria Mastropaolo*

Logan Dyer—Logan Dyer is a local business owner and music man whose passion led him to provide music lessons to members of the community free of charge to ensure everyone has the opportunity to experience the music scene. Dyer's goals are to expand the music culture of Evansville which was his inspiration for participating and helping to organize the 300+ guitar ensemble Every Chord Counts in 2013. *Nominated by: Nancy Higgs*

Verdelski Miller—Verdelski Miller exceeds his role of volunteer director of Boom Squad, Inc., a non-profit, percussion program focused on achievement and deterring delinquency in youth, by writing grants, holding meetings, scheduling performances, and shows up to court for members of the Squad who appear in the system. Mr. Miller has always done his best to ensure the children involved know they have a confidant in him and encourages them to achieve to the best of their abilities. *Nominated by: Sarah Miller*

Patrick Preston—Patrick Preston's passion for music, music education, and his community have greatly benefited his audiences and fellow performers. His work as an audio engineer, composer, producer, and songwriter enhances the artistic and cultural landscape of our region. *Nominated by: Anne McKim*

COMMUNITY & NEIGHBORHOOD

Curt Begle—Serving as the Director of the Posey County United Way, believing in true community collaboration, Curt Begle strives to be an advocate for the community. Curt understands the importance of supporting local charitable organizations and the role they play in helping members of the community, donating time, talent, and treasure to assist in any way needed. *Nominated by: Amy Canterbury*

Rose Benton—At age 88 and still lending a helping hand, Rose Benton is a true servant leader. Throughout her lifetime, Rose has given countless hours and resources to the Rescue Mission, the Salvation Army, and many other organizations, ensuring that the needs of the community are met. *Nominated by: Bob Stemple*

Vicki Brasel—Vicki Brasel truly understands the meaning of giving back to her community, donating countless hours of her time to help those in need. Vicki works with local organizations such as the YMCA and the Dream Center to ensure as many needs in the community are being met as possible. *Nominated by: Larry Farmer*

Alan and Sharon Braun—Upon retirement, Alan and Sharon Braun wished to create a lasting legacy, establishing the Alan and Sharon Braun Family Foundation. The vision Alan and Sharon have of supporting those in the community is what makes these individuals such role models. *Nominated by: Sr. Jane Michelle McClure*

Katherine Cartwright—8 year-old Katherine Cartwright is a volunteer for the VHS who has raised hundreds of dollars' worth of donations for the shelter. For her birthday, she captured the national eye of State Farm when she asked for pet food, blankets, and other donations she could give to the animals instead of presents for herself. Katherine is a selfless young girl whose heart considers the wellbeing of shelter animals to be just as important as other issues facing our community today. *Nominated by: Kim Melton and Rachel Cartwright*

Jennifer Cooke—Jennifer Cooke has been an initiator of programs for Jacobsville to help lower crime and improve the lives of residents. Her promising work includes the Jacobsville Crime Free Alliance and the Promise Zone application. Jennifer works with residents toward solutions for the area and always leaves room in her schedule for assisting those in need of her help or advice. The dream of lowering crime rates and improving the lives of those living in Jacobsville has been greatly affected by Jennifer Cooke's work and willingness to connect people to one another. *Nominated by: Melissa Tines and Nick Bockhorst*

Wallace Corbitt—Bringing ideas of innovation, Wallace Corbitt is an excellent ally on the CAPE Minority Health Advisory Council. In addition to his 10 years of service on the council, Wallace also serves on the Community Action Programs Board of Advisors. He donates countless hours of his time volunteering for the ongoing health projects of Minority Health. Wallace Corbitt is a true advocate for our community. *Nominated by: RaShawnda Bonds*

The Core Crew from Habitat for Humanity of Evansville—The Core Crew for Habitat for Humanity is a large crew of diverse volunteers whose hearts and souls pour into building homes, mentoring others and teaching skill specializations. This group of over fifty members come together for one passion: providing new homes for those in need. The Core Crew combines all levels of construction experience to create a diverse environment infused with learning. *Nominated by: Sr. Jane Michelle McClure*

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"Leadership is not necessarily a title or a powerful position, it is a process, it is relational, it is making something happen."

— Leadership scholar Dr. Lorraine Matusak

Nominees, continued

Brant Flores—Having moved to Evansville only eight short years ago, Brant Flores has made strides to be a positive influence for the community by promoting the importance of diversity. Brant's compassion, vision, and leadership have led him to take key roles in HOLA, the Latino Chamber Alliance, and Mayor Winnecke's Supplier Diversity Award event.

Nominated by: Daniela Vidal

April Goebel—April Goebel is a Registered Nurse who dedicates herself to various community efforts including the Nurses' Board at Memorial Baptist Church and working for a senior citizen home to care for elderly patients. April teaches boot camp exercise classes and is involved with Fabulous After 30 Evansville in an effort to reach out into the community and mentor young women. Her involvement with the Cystic Fibrosis Association aids in fundraising and bringing awareness for those living with the disease. *Nominated by: Joey Goebel*

Tracy Gorman—Tracy Gorman, the leader of Evansville Rescue Mission, devotes his time to understanding the underprivileged and helping them onto a path of transformation. Tracy values empowering his employees, coworkers, and all other persons to look past their own barriers as well as others; he works tirelessly to raise awareness and provide aid for those struggling through various platforms. In the past year, the Rescue Mission he resides as president of served 400 meals per day and provided 202 beds for the homeless. *Nominated by: Joshua Nichols*

Ange Humphrey—Ange Humphrey has a heart and a passion for justice and equality for all. Ange is an advocate for diversity and multicultural awareness in Evansville, serving as a role model for many in the community. *Nominated by: Abbey Doyle and Lynn Renne*

Courtney Johnson—Courtney Johnson works to bring awareness within the Evansville community through campaigns such as Stop the Violence and Uniting Evansville and other social events, fundraisers, and more. Mr. Johnson draws in members of the community from all walks of life including the younger generations through his non-profit work. *Nominated by: DeAndre Wilson*

Kathy Kleindorfer—Kathy Kleindorfer made it her personal mission to promote family businesses within the community and show the cultural value they present. With several others, she helped found the Southwest Indiana Chamber's Family Business Alliance as a resource benefiting small businesses and their owners. Her tireless work efforts have gathered volunteers and sponsors to become heavily involved with the FBA. *Nominated by: Kim Howard*

Rabbi Gary Mazo—Rabbi Gary Mazo has been an influential religious leader in the community through his work building relationships between different faiths. He was fundamental

in the founding of One God One Community and has served as the president of Habitat Interfaith Build for two years. Rabbi Mazo is an advocate of equality among faith communities no matter the worshipper's background.

Nominated by: Muhammad Hussain, MD

Carol McClintock—Carol McClintock serves the community through her involvement with neighborhood associations, appearing as a representative for local, regional and state activities, and her contributions as a successful realtor. Carol's leadership practices were praised and recognized by the UNOE 2016 Sparkplug Award. She has led over 20 meetings to create improvement plans for the city and volunteered for various organizations throughout our community.

Nominated by: Ellen Sprepski

Susan Gainey-Odoyo—Animal advocate and rescuer are two words that have been used to describe Susan Gainey-Odoyo. In 2016 alone, Susan's commitment to rescue homeless dogs and find them a forever home through the It Takes A Village Canine Rescue allowed 700+ canines to have brighter futures.

Nominated by: Lori Martin

Jack Pate—Jack Pate brought humor and effectiveness to the newspaper world through his job as publisher. Mr. Pate always wanted to select the route that would bring the most success to the community and created a team and department who felt the same. Jack Pate helped honor young leaders through programs such as 20 under 40 and Star Students as well as acknowledged the diversity of the community by promoting the Evansville Rescue Mission and hiring minorities and women to leadership roles in Evansville.

Nominated by: Felicia Grounds

Drew Peyronnin—Drew Peyronnin is a proud proponent of expanding technology and innovation within the community displayed mainly through his support of Evansville Tech on Tap. With his assistance, the Tech on Tap group has bloomed into a large organization of over 600 entrepreneurs and other innovative figures. Mr. Peyronnin encourages collaboration, new ideas for overcoming obstacles, and engaged participation. He ensures his resources are focused on maintaining the growth of the untapped talent of Evansville innovators and businesses.

Nominated by: Kim Howard

Cathy Renner—Cathy Renner brought about the annual Evansville Rotary Santa Run in three months through her perseverance and tireless work ethic. Cathy works openly with her committee and Rotary Club welcoming critiques and suggestions to overcome obstacles. Aside from her duties as a servant leader and assistant director at the University of Evansville, Cathy participates in Tri Kappa and many other organizations. *Nominated by: Pepper Mulherin*

Nominees, continued

Maytes Rivera—Maytes Rivera's passion for helping under-represented children has led her to become a positive role model for the community's children, especially those of minorities. With endless acceptance and understanding, Maytes is a voice of reason and a sense of calm to those who need the support. *Nominated by: Daniela Vidal*

Lauren Schmitt—With a passion for animals, Lauren Schmitt put her talents to work and created Cardio for Canines at the Vanderburgh Humane Society. Because of Lauren, members of our local community are getting a little extra cardio, and the community's homeless shelter dogs receive a little extra love. *Nominated by: Amanda Coburn*

Katie Syers—Katie Syers truly cares about her customers. Katie, an employee of Fifth Third Bank, goes above and beyond for her clients everyday. She helps them with budgeting and helps them understand what it means to be accountable with their finances. She treats all of her customers with respect and makes them feel valued and important. *Nominated by: Linda Salmon*

Ben Trockman—Ben Trockman lives beyond his job title as Outreach and Employment Specialist; he was a core starter of the Habitat for Humanity of Evansville Millennial Build. His guidance brought together a team of hardworking young people determined to provide a housing opportunity for low-income families. Ben and the Abilities First Resource Group planned an open house on disability employment to further educate the people of the business world showing his thoughts and ideas for new projects always stem from a concern for helping others. *Nominated by: Kortney Blaylock and Sr. Jane Michelle McClure*

Jeff Whiteside—As an officer for the Vectren Foundation, Jeff Whiteside has found a passion for charity and improving lives in the surrounding communities. Jeff uses his strong interpersonal skills and determination to motivate others to find their passion for helping those who need it. Mr. Whiteside welcomes ideas with an open mind and works tirelessly to ensure projects are well on their way. *Nominated by: Ron Christian*

Amy Word-Smith—Evansville's very own "hurricane of happiness", Amy is one of the community's most wonderful allies. Amy's drive, commitment, and community mindedness have brought about a revolution in Evansville cultural districts by doing epic "stuff." *Nominated by: Dave Smith*

James Zelle—James Zelle's commitment to children born with less than perfect bodies came through his personal experience with his daughter. He spent hours at the hospital as she went through surgery after surgery. When Jim retired, he sat with other parents as they waited while their

children went through surgeries. Since moving to Evansville, Jim has become involved in Easterseals through music. Every Wednesday Jim packs up hand drums and drives to Easterseals for a 45 minute session with his friends. His class has helped those with a range of disabilities find a joyful activity where they can laugh, learn and heal all at once. *Nominated by: Kathryn Kornblum-Zelle*

EDUCATION

Tiffany Ball—With a deep-seated passion for individuals with disabilities, Tiffany Ball has dedicated her time and talent to raise awareness for the well-being, education, and care for children like her Jacob. Tiffany's desire to help others combined with her theatrical gifts have helped to brighten the lives of so many in our community. *Nominated by: Connie LeBeau*

Jeff Deig—Jeff Deig has been a leader both professionally and personally as he taught and mentored engineering students and Skanska associates over the course of his career. Via his seat in the Southwest Chamber of Commerce, Jeff was able to take part in the creation of the Protégé Program which requires mentoring a startup group or underprivileged business. Through programs such as this and his work at U.E., Jeff has forged partnerships throughout the city and left a trail of positive impact. *Nominated by: Denny Quinn*

Daniel Dickman—A truly dedicated professor, Daniel Dickman has a passion for improving the education environment and learning processes of his students. His collaborative nature and engagement of students is what makes Daniel an inspiration to those in education. *Nominated by: Alisha Aman*

Matt Hart—Matt Hart has dedicated his efforts to bringing the community's attention to the serious issue of bullying. His vision uses audience participation, anecdotes, videos and ways to "reACT" to not only better inform the community of what bullying is but how to put an end to it. Mr. Hart welcomes and encourages involvement from the administration and staff of the schools he visits as a way to engage everyone in the conversation. *Nominated by: Stacey Godbold*

Erin Lewis—Erin Lewis, Program Director at the Institute for Global Enterprise at U.E., has used her position to engage students in identifying and solving real world problems through programs such as the Changemaker Challenge and the GAP program. Erin serves on the Title IX committee at the University of Evansville to help ensure gender equality. Her civic leadership and involvement through We the People, a nationwide program encouraging understanding of civic responsibility, and Justice Sandra O'Connor's iCivics program show the depths of her commitment to the real-world education of the next generation. *Nominated by: Jill Griffin*

Nominees, continued

Susie Masterson—Susie Masterson has worked toward bettering the education of children at Evansville Christian School for many years always remaining focused on an education in Christian and Academic Excellence. Under her leadership, ISTEP scores at ECS have risen and surpassed many other schools in the area. Susie Masterson has trained teachers to lead and teach in ways which impact the lives of others and continues to work with students, parents, and community leaders to find new ways to broaden the education scope. *Nominated by: Jeff Main*

Amy Maxheimer—Amy Maxheimer, an occupational therapist with the EVSC, advocates for meeting the sensory needs of students and was responsible for bringing Minds in Motion, a program which stimulates a child's auditory and visual processing and motor skills, to the district. Her work focuses on giving students the tools they need to succeed in school. Amy works with teachers and students from all around the district to create a team to share ideas, solve problems, and encourage involvement. The success and happiness of others is at the core of Amy's work. *Nominated by: Betsy Wade*

Dr. David Smith—Dr. David Smith leads the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation as the superintendent with techniques of inclusion and collaboration. His leadership has helped craft a likeminded and diverse team focused on creating the best education for children. The skills Dr. Smith displayed concerning finance allowed for the creation of a budget where a new elementary school can be built without associated debt. Dr. Smith is one of only twenty leaders selected for a national panel of leading educators to discuss the challenges of public education. *Nominated by: Patrick Shoulders*

Darla Smith—Darla Smith's dream was to create a baking class for children and made it a reality with the help of the Dream Center. Her baking class not only taught high school students how to bake but business management and money skills as well. Darla became a mentor and role model for these young adolescents and continues to work on community development in Jacobsville with the Jacobsville Join In program. *Nominated by: Jeremy Evans*

Bill Stein—Seeking out the latest technologies, Bill Stein ensures the K-12 students of the Mt. Vernon School District are receiving the best education possible. Bill's activism extends outside of the school system, as well, participating in the collaborative efforts of the I-69 Innovation Corridor. *Nominated by: Michael Thissen*

Lino and Pam Wiseman—Lino and Pam Wiseman volunteer regularly with Hangers to provide clients with whatever clothing item they may need. The pair have spent hours and

driven miles to find clothing deals and yard sales to bring back to Hangers and help better the lives of those who could not afford the clothes on their own. The Wisemans inspire those around them to volunteer as well as fund raise. *Nominated by: Rick Cameron*

ENVIRONMENT

Jean Reising—Jean Reising has been an instrumental figure in the foundation of the Learning Garden, a neighborhood gardening project meant to educate all ages. Jean took on the project of creating a garden in front of the CK Newsome Center with help from Evansville Water and Sewer Utility and USI engineering students. The project is inclusive and accessible to wheelchair bound participants. Jean has tackled any challenge presented in the process of creating a fun, friendly outdoor environment and conquered it. *Nominated by: Michael Labitzke*

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE

Jessica Clark—Jessica Clark formed a self-defense class out of a desire to help her friends and fellow high school students about to leave for college prepare themselves for real world dangers they may face. She contacted a self-defense teacher, Nancy Cutrell, to teach the class and organized the event from beginning to end herself. Jessica has not limited the class to one gender but opened it to all students at her high school and is set to have 80 students attend. *Nominated by: Alisha Aman*

Ed Lander—Ed Lander has been a long time public servant in Evansville where he started his career in law enforcement and trained officers at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. Ed collaborated with several partners to bring the first urban contemporary radio station, WEOA (98.5FM), to the Tri-State Area. Ed has inspired his fellow citizens to get out and vote by helping with the polls during election season, and he has encouraged others to be involved with local ministries who help provide food baskets for low-income neighborhoods. *Nominated by: The Family Day in the Park Committee*

Kim Musgrave—Kim Musgrave has been an integral part of the community's Labor Movement for more than three decades. Standing up for all working people, Kim is an inspiration to the community, promoting a vision of equality and improved standards of living, both on and off the job. *Nominated by: Nina Musgrave*

Nominees, continued

Stephanie TenBarge—Stephanie TenBarge's work with Lucas Place, the New Start Program, and other organizations concerned with helping the homeless and low income families goes beyond her job as Executive Director of ECHO Housing Corporation. Her leadership and desire to help better areas within the community led to the acquisition of the final Promise Zone. Stephanie has provided inspiration and aid for women in need. Throughout her career, she has been involved with multiple organizations at once outside of ECHO in order to support the unity as best she can.
Nominated by: Chris Metz

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Darcy Ackerman Ellison—Darcy Ackerman Ellison worked as a Labor and Delivery nurse and a Women's and Children's Administrator before moving on to serve as a mentor to nursing students on the USI and Ivy Tech Nursing Advisory Councils. During her time in the nursing world, Darcy helped lead St. Mary's to achieve the Magnet Designation, a rigorous program in which only 7% of hospitals earn the recognition, through her dedicated leadership. She was awarded the Steward of St. Vincent de Paul, the highest honor St. Mary's awards, in 2016 for her hard work. *Nominated by: St. Mary's Health*

Patty Altman—Patty Altman recently completed her degree to become a licensed clinical social work to further the work she does concerning mental health. Patty goes above and beyond by focusing on healing the whole person- spiritually, physically, and mentally. All her patients are treated equally and fairly. Patty Altman always makes herself available to rush to the ER, comfort a family in need, or be there for a friend after work hours. *Nominated by: Kathy Schlechte*

Erica Cole—Erica Cole is a disability advocate serving as a member of the Evansville/Vanderburgh County Advisory Board on Disability Services. Erica works tirelessly to ensure those with disabilities are given a voice when it comes to discussions of employment and diversity. Her efforts are currently spent planning the very first disability awareness fair and walk in Evansville to bring together organizations, services, and members of the community in support of individuals with disabilities. *Nominated by: Rob Kerney*

Bill Frost—Bill Frost volunteers his time to search for and secure items and interesting experiences to be donated for charity auctions benefiting children and local non-profit organizations. Mr. Frost's connections to businesses, leaders and even a few celebrities help him provide items or entertainment for charity events, be involved in the launch of events like Evansville Day at the St. Louis Cardinals, and raise hundreds of dollars for programs like Youth First and the Hot Stove League.
Nominated by: Parri Black

Sister Donna Marie Herr—Sister Donna Marie Herr has selflessly dedicated her volunteer efforts to helping St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry for the past nine years. Sister Donna Marie's compassion and inviting personality has made collaboration with the city's other food pantries run smoothly. Her dedication extends beyond providing for those in need of the pantry's services; her commitment to recognizing the priceless volunteers who help make the mission of the pantry possible never ceases.
Nominated by: Evansville District Council Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Andrea Hoffman (posthumously) and Corbin Hoffman—In the fight against breast cancer, Andrea Hoffman and her son Corbin fought to raise awareness of the disease. Though they lost her battle to breast cancer, Andrea and Corbin brought education and resources to those whose lives are touched by breast cancer. *Nominated by: Shelley Kirk*

Don Jones—Don Jones, leader of the Upgrade Bike Share Program campaign for Evansville, promotes the fitness of the community through many outlets. Mr. Jones ensured he created a diverse committee representing the city and its people. Don brought back the Trails Coalition and quickly became one of many voices advocating for Evansville's first dedicated cycle track on a public thoroughfare.
Nominated by: Kelley Coures

Hillary Melchiors—Hillary Melchiors is a voice for the community's women. Through her community involvement as a childbirth educator and philanthropic organizations, Hillary volunteers her time and expertise to raise awareness for social concerns facing today's women.
Nominated by: Andrew Melchiors

Dr. Michael Roscoe—After crossing paths with an Afghani child needing heart surgery while serving in the U.S. Army in Afghanistan, Dr. Michael Roscoe took the initiative to arrange for medical assistance for the child at Riley Hospital in Indianapolis. Though the surgery was successful, the joy changed to devastation after the child returned to the village - the child died, but his legacy and the work of Dr. Roscoe led to more than 170 children who have been brought to Riley from countries with limited medical care. Dr. Michael Roscoe helped one child in Afghanistan whose incredible journey changed Dr. Roscoe's entire life, touched people's hearts and continues to pave the way for health care for children around the world. *Nominated by: Lily Pease*

Sara Vaughn—Sara Vaughn relates to and inspires others through the power of positive thinking and motivational speaking. She promotes awareness and collaboration in the community through roles on The Education Committee for the Homeless Services Council of Southwest Indiana and Aurora, Inc. Sara also coordinates many volunteer events to prevent and advocate against homelessness. *Nominated by: Sara Vaughn*

Nominees, continued

Timothy Weir—A true champion for the underserved in our community, Timothy Weir is a key proponent in the fight for resources needed by those who go without. Timothy's swift action and collaborative efforts created a coalition of community members who raised over \$100,000 for three local organizations, safeguarding resources for the community's most vulnerable. *Nominated by: Brian Kerney and Amy Canterbury*

Linda White—Linda White has been a leader in advocating for high-quality, end of life care in hospice facilities; all her research and planning came together to develop the Linda E. White Hospice House. Linda is a collaborator at heart. She brought together rival healthcare systems in the community to efficiently conduct community health needs assessments mandated by the government. Linda always ensures the patients and their families are thought of when proposals are made in a project or hospital effort. *Nominated by: Susan Hardwick and Deaconess Health System*

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

ARTS

Front Porch Fest—Bringing the community together in an authentic way, Front Porch Fest brought live musical talent to the front porches of the community. Offering music from jazz to folk, Front Porch Fest drew thousands in the community to a unique musical experience. *Nominated by: Dave Smith*

Highway 41 Mural—The Highway 41 Mural warmly invites visitors into the city and welcomes citizens of Evansville home from their travels via an underpass. Keep Evansville Beautiful worked with the artist and various Evansville agencies and offices to confirm the design and approval of the mural. The mural represents the idea of bringing more public art to the city as a way to revitalize the city and invite others to see a progressive, creative Evansville. *Nominated by: Julie Welch*

Junk the Junk Jacobsville—Junk the Junk Jacobsville is a collaborative project between Jacobsville Safety & Cleanliness Workgroup and Jacobsville Crime Free Alliance members, Delaware Elementary School, and other members of the community to increase cleanliness and safety in the 22 high crime areas of Jacobsville. The project inspired young children from various backgrounds to become involved by creating their own unique artwork depicting themselves or those they know as heroes fighting crime to discourage littering in their community. *Nominated by: Austin Maxheimer*

Music Makes a Difference—Music Makes a Difference was hosted by Lamasco Bar and Grill to fundraise for the Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center. Local musicians and bar employees donated their time and services to help raise nearly \$2,000 for the center. With the leadership efforts of Chris Passage, the event has been scheduled for a second year to continue raising funds and making a positive impact in the lives of rehabilitation patients. *Nominated by: Amy Word-Smith*

The Romeo & Juliet Ballet—The Romeo & Juliet Ballet brings together students from different backgrounds to build on concepts such as a love for the arts- particularly dance, respect for history, and responsibility to the community. The next generation is inspired to explore unique experiences and persevere through the hard work and effort required by this program. The Signature IB Dance Program builds the strengths of students at any level while simultaneously teaching new skills they may use to inspire passions or enrich their resumes and future careers. *Nominated by: Ed Scharf*

Stand Santa Back Up—Once Ron McKeethen found the iconic, giant Santa statue lying in disrepair, he assembled a team and a project to repair the figure and have it reinstated alongside Highway 41. Local residents, businesses and trades all came out to show their support by donating their labor or resources to restoring the statue. Hundreds of people from Kentucky, Indiana, and more came together to see the joy and hope Santa brought as he "stood back up." *Nominated by: Bruce Tippett*

Tap, Tumble and Twirl—After success with two previous outreach programs, Children's Center for Dance Education wanted to extend the gift of dancing to younger generations through a new program: Tap, Tumble, and Twirl. The project partnered with Culver's Learning Academy to create an environment of fun and learning not just for the young students but the teachers as well who also participate in dance classes. Tap, Tumble, and Twirl has helped prepare these students for kindergarten by teaching necessary directional concepts, motor skills, and more. *Nominated by: Sally Olson*

COMMUNITY & NEIGHBORHOOD

BOSS, Inc. - Men of Valor—Respect, determination, and integrity are a few of the ideas taught to young men who enter the Men of Valor Program. Men of Valor is dedicated to teaching at-risk youth and empowering them to succeed through lessons in financial literacy, guest talks about future careers, and increasing their self-worth. The goal of the program is to help young men break through social and economic barriers they may have faced and learn that respecting yourself and others is a fundamental key to success. *Nominated by: Reese Hamilton and Phyllip Davis*

Nominees, continued

Downtown Master Plan—The Downtown Master Plan Update is refreshing the downtown area through the addition of local businesses such as restaurants and coffee vendors, retail shops, new homes and more. The project sought the advice of the community, asking what they would like to see in their downtown, through social media, surveys, and local Spanish and African-American radio stations. With the support of core members, the project has already begun to unfold and move toward its goal of a “connected city core”.

Nominated by: Scott Wylie

Fiesta Evansville—Fiesta Evansville is a celebration of Latino pride and culture through education, food, and music. The program welcomes all members of the community to experience and learn more about the diversity within the Latino culture. Ivy Tech, USI, and several health partners attend or sponsor the event to help Fiesta Evansville educate and reward students and citizens. The goal of Fiesta Evansville is to bring in more and more members of the community to share the long standing traditions and support Latino youth. *Nominated by: Jonas Cueche, Phyllip Davis, Marietta Rodriguez and Erica Schmidt*

If You Only Knew—If You Only Knew was founded by Carla Webb to bring awareness to the travesty of domestic violence and empower the victims. The organization speaks to local churches and groups about warning signs, how to properly assist victims, and the skills of healthy relationships. If You Only Knew knows domestic abuse does not discriminate and uses its resources to reach out to as many abuse survivors as they can to provide a voice and encourage the beginning of the healing process. *Nominated by: Kathryn Komblum-Zelle*

InSideOut Music Festival—Uniting hundreds of diverse people, the InSideOut Music Festival raised nearly \$10,000 for local non-profits. The festival raised awareness for the LGBTQ community and gained for the arts through the numerous artists who performed. *Nominated by: Amy Word-Smith*

Interfaith Gathering in Remembrance of the Pulse Nightclub Shooting Victims—After the tragedy of the Pulse Nightclub shootings in Florida, religious and secular leaders from around Evansville stood together to create an event honoring the victims lost. Aside from remembrance, the event wanted to bring citizens from all backgrounds together to create a community focused on love, respect, and acceptance. Jewish, Muslim, and Christian leaders delivered sermons and shared the event stage with local leaders to spread the message of coexisting within the community and show violence is not the answer. *Nominated by: Phyllip Davis*

A Night of Stars and Style—A Night of Stars and Style is a celebratory project which brings together local celebrities

and children with disabilities such as Autism and Down Syndrome at Eastland Mall for a night of empowerment, inclusion and fun. The night brings together families, the media, and other community resources to spread awareness and the message of acceptance. The goal of the runway show is to celebrate all types of diversity and empower those living with disabilities in our community by creating new friendships, memories, and changing the definition of beauty for all. *Nominated by: Nikki Davis*

MOMs Bible Study & Fellowship Group—SMILE on Down Syndrome MOMs Bible Study & Fellowship Group provides an accepting, friendly space where women, especially mothers, of children diagnosed with a disability may come to share their stories and feel understood without fear of judgement. The group has rallied in support of its members to provide car rides, meals when loved ones are hospitalized, and even confidential Christmas gifts. They encourage mothers to feel empowered to become leaders in their homes and their communities and to feel safe expressing themselves within their environment. *Nominated by: Nina Fuller*

Uniting Evansville—Uniting Evansville is a collaborative initiative aimed at creating a better understanding between police officers and the community they serve. The goal of the project is to create a foundation of trust with law enforcement and lower crime rates by using meetings and roundtable discussions to allow community members and police alike to understand one another on a more in-depth basis. *Nominated by: Phyllip Davis*

VHS Low-Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic—Realizing the importance of spaying and neutering local homeless and shelter animals, the Vanderburgh Humane Society created the Low-Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic. The clinic celebrates its 10th birthday this summer with more than 59,000 animals spayed and neutered in the period. *Nominated by: Amanda Coburn*

EDUCATION

CNA Program at Academy for Innovative Studies, First Avenue Campus—The First Avenue Campus of the Academy for Innovative Studies created its CNA program to provide students skills that can be applied to the workforce immediately following graduation. Because of this program, students are passing their board exams and qualifying for jobs in the health care community. *Nominated by: Pam Hight*

Associated Accelerated Program (ASAP)—Ivy Tech's Associated Accelerated Program, also know as ASAP is designed to help students complete their associate degree in one year. ASAP provides a positive, experiential learning environment for students, serving as a model for post-secondary education that is responsive to the constantly

Nominees, continued

changing workforce environment of today's world.

Nominated by: Jennifer Briggs

Committee to Promote Respect in Schools (CYPRESS)—As incidences of bullying, racism, and hateful discussions increased throughout the year, CYPRESS took notice and chose to take action using workshops and a lecture by Dr. Terrence Roberts of The Little Rock Nine. The group does not shy away from putting the spot on glaring issues such as anti-Semitism, racism, and more; their objective is to create conversations by educating the educators, so they, in turn, can educate their students on the truths of diversity.

Nominated by: Patricia Weinzapfel

Cool Coding Awareness Week—The local school corporation partners with fellow educational minded organizations to offer computer coding opportunities for hundreds of students in Evansville. Cool Coding Awareness Week allowed students to interact with technology and learn skills that would open future opportunities for careers in a growing career field.

Nominated by: Kelsey Wright

Lincoln School Back to School Health Fair—With research proving healthier students perform better in the classroom, Lincoln School created its Back to School Health Fair. This free event was open to the public, providing a wide range of services from health screenings to financial planning for students and families of the Lincoln community.

Nominated by: Angela Greenwell

New Tech Institute—New Tech Institute was established in 2010 as a way to educate students in a different way. Learning is more STEM-focused and project-based to encourage real-world skills like collaboration, problem solving and presentations. New Tech has increased in size from 200 to 320 students from four different counties in the last 3 years alone. Aside from offering an alternative learning method, New Tech gives the students opportunities to succeed with AP courses, college credit classes through Ivy Tech, Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center and USI, and unique clubs created based on the students' interests.

Nominated by: Donna Zimmerman

Noelting Films Preservation Project—The Noelting Films Preservation Project required numerous hours and volunteers to preserve rare film of Evansville events from the 1930s and 1940s presented by the Noelting family. The films provide a unique opportunity to share the history of the city with future generations through a public showcasing and other special events. Several organizations such as the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science were involved in ensuring the films were preserved; the films include the opening of Washington Elementary School, the Wendell Wilkie Campaigns, and more.

Nominated by: Chris Cooke

Scholars for Syria—Scholars for Syria was founded on the University of Evansville's campus as an effort to combat the misinformation and discrimination surrounding Syria, the war, and the refugees. The organization created a lecture series dedicated to teaching the community the history, politics, religion, and more of Syria. The program has inspired a campaign entitled #StandwithSyria; what started as a small, seven person concept, has decreased the prejudice and fear and replaced it with understanding and a desire to help.

Nominated by: Jill Griffin

University of Evansville GAP Program—The University of Evansville's GAP program provides students opportunities to work on the most pressing issues society faces. From bike shares to solar panels and connectivity to infant mortality, this program is engaging local college students in finding the solutions needed most.

Nominated by: Erin Lewis

ENVIRONMENT

Caze Garden Project—Caze Garden has become an outdoor classroom giving children the opportunity to plant and grow vegetables, grow plants for their grandparents, and take care of the sunflower garden. The garden includes two classroom areas where curricular lessons are given to the students. Pam Costello, otherwise known as Mrs. Butterfly, has become a shining star with the program as a mentor and teacher to the young gardeners.

Nominated by: Jared Turney

Adopt-an-Ash Program—Adopt-an-Ash brought together many local organizations with the main purpose of protecting Evansville's Ash Trees. Promoting opportunities for community engagement, Adopt-An-Ash has saved more than 400 of Evansville's Ash Trees.

Nominated by: Chris Cooke

EVIE-Every Volunteer Is Essential—EVIE, Every Volunteer Is Essential, is a program aimed at encouraging the 4 R's—retrieving litter, reducing waste, recycling and reusing items—with the help of one special canine, Evie. Evie travels to local schools and community events to demonstrate how small actions, such as picking up one piece of litter, can begin to make an impact on beautifying the community. EVIE has gathered national attention and partnered with Alcoa and WNIN to film an educational film as well as a game endorsed by PBS Kids Go!

Nominated by: Robert Flores

Nominees, continued

Gloria's Garden—Gloria's Garden, named as a tribute to the former director of fitness and health at Ivy Tech, Gloria Schwartz, was cultivated as a project for employees and students to maintain together. With the dedication of Monica Crenshaw and many other employees, the garden has grown large enough to acquire a grant ensuring its continuing success. The garden has also partnered with the culinary program in an effort to provide food for students and staff. *Nominated by: Alisha Aman*

Helfrich Park Gateway Garden—Helfrich Park Gateway Garden is a true urban oasis in the Evansville community. Located at the entrance of Helfrich Park at the corner of St. Joseph Avenue and Maryland Street, the garden's endless foliage and stone features instill a sense of pride and ownership from those in the neighborhood. *Nominated by: Evansville Department of Parks and Recreation*

Upgrade Bike Share Program—Evansville-area Trails Coalition in partnership with city officials and representatives from numerous area organizations launched 70 cruiser bikes at seven stations across Evansville for members to use on demand. Anyone over the age of 18 can ride by purchasing a day pass or by enrolling in a monthly or annual membership. Locations include University of Evansville, North Main Street, West Franklin Street, Downtown YMCA, Downtown Pagoda, Haynie's Corner Art District, and Deaconess Sports Park. The installation of this program marks the culmination of a collaborative effort between an impressive network of individuals committed to the progress of Evansville. *Nominated by: Kelley Coures*

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE

Blight Elimination and Land Bank—Evansville's Land Bank program began as a way to clear out blighted property but has developed into a revitalization tool for neighborhoods as well as the city as a whole. The program buys vacant, problem properties from Vanderburgh County and demolishes the old homes to create lots with more value encouraging homeowners to buy the lot and rebuild, deterring criminals and others from trespassing in the homes, and making safer, better neighborhoods. *Nominated by: Kelley Coures*

The Evansville Promise Zone—The Evansville Promise Zone, a 10-year program designed to aid regions of the city with high poverty and unemployment rates, brings together many organizations such as ECHO Housing Corporation, local businesses, and government partners to develop a plan for rebuilding neighborhoods, creating jobs, and reducing crime to create a community with more opportunities and connectivity. *Nominated by: Kelley Coures and Stephanie TenBarge*

EVSC's Randall T. Shepard Leadership & Law Academy—The Shepard Leadership & Law Academy emphasizes the importance of community service, political activism, and social justice for local students in a time when these are most crucial. The academy prepares students for leadership and legal roles in the community by following JFK's vision: "Leadership and learning are indispensable to one another." *Nominated by: Sara DeWitt*

Indiana's Great Southwest - Regional Cities—The Regional Cities Grant was awarded to Evansville thanks to the efforts of four counties and their leaders who wished to see the project bring new urban building and enhancements to the community. The grant proposal was worked on for months to tell the refined story "Indiana's Great Southwest" that was inclusive of all ideas and initiatives including improvements to Signature School and the Evansville Regional Airport. In the end, the project will bring in millions of investment dollars for renovating the city. *Nominated by: Scott Wylie*

North Main Complete Street Project—Residents of Jacobsville came together to form the Jacobsville Area Community Corporation as a platform for creating plans to improve their area of town. One result of their meetings was the North Main Complete Street project. Business owners, researchers, community members, and more came together to develop and pass a plan to restore the historic North Main district. The project is set to bring in more visitors to Bosse Field, boost the economy, and encourage an influx of businesses and residential living. *Nominated by: Kelley Coures and Anna Hargis*

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Aurora's Refugee Homeless Prevention Program—The first of its kind in Evansville, Aurora's Refugee Homeless Prevention Program provides local case management to refugees of the region who previously were served in the centralized location of Indianapolis. This program meets the needs of these individuals, welcoming refugees with open arms into the community's fold. *Nominated by: Carolyn Dearmond*

Delay the Disease—Delay the Disease is a nationwide exercise program for individuals with Parkinson's disease. This program provides a therapeutic outlet, a reprieve, for those who endure a daily battle with a painful disease. *Nominated by: Kathy McMurray*

HANGERS—Ensuring the community's children are dressed for success, HANGERS partners with local organizations and community members to raise awareness of need in Evansville. HANGERS provides clothing and basic hygiene products to any child needing assistance. *Nominated by: Jeffrey Berger and Rick Cameron*

Nominees, continued

Jacobsville Crime Free Alliance—An initiative created from a desire to mobilize residents and institutional partners to improve the quality of life in the Jacobsville area, the Jacobsville Crime Free Alliance has led to crime reduction in the community. The Alliance has impacted thousands of individuals annually with its crime prevention initiatives and community revitalization efforts.

Nominated by: Austin Maxheimer

Pediatric Injury Prevention Program—The Pediatric Injury Prevention Program educates and brings awareness to parents and even children about dangers young kids face such as ATVs, riding in a car, and bike riding. The program began gathering data about the injuries children in and around Evansville suffered and soon caught the attention of other agencies dedicated to keeping children safe like Safe Kids. Collaborative work took root as a way to spread the message within the community and provide necessary, life-saving equipment such as car seats for young children.

Nominated by: Lynn Herr

Project AWARE—Project AWARE provides support to train local teachers and staff instrumental in the development of the community's youth. With collaborative efforts from many groups including law enforcement and mental health organizations, Project AWARE is ensuring all students' needs are met. *Nominated by: St. Mary's Health*

Recipe for Success—Recipe for Success was started by the culinary students of Ivy Tech Community College as a giveback to the community. The students cooked fresh soups and served them free of charge to peers, staff members, families, and anyone who happened to swing by. Thanks to Seton Harvest for the ingredients and the guidance of Chef Watez the culinary class hopes to continue the collaboration to continue serving their community. *Nominated by: Alisha Aman*

Spirit Medical Fund—The Spirit Medical Fund assists with medical care for the community's stray, homeless, and abandoned animals. This fund fulfills a much needed service to those members of the community that do not have a voice of their own. *Nominated by: Chris Cooke*

Voices—Through advocacy and empowerment, Voices, Inc. is dedicated to protecting the rights of residents of long-term care facilities. Voices works to ensure each individual is respected, providing a voice to those who often go without. *Nominated by: Jennifer Briggs*

BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

ARTS

ENGAGED! River Valley—ENGAGED! River Valley is committed to providing the best tools and resources to the tri-state area. Through the promotion of local vendors, Engaged! River Valley promotes the importance of keeping it local for the surrounding community. *Nominated by: Nikki Davis and JoElle Knight*

Haynie's Corner Art District Association—Haynie's Corner Art District Association was started as a way to combine the arts with area restaurants and businesses and has grown to cultivate the local art talent through the First Friday celebration. The HCAD holds monthly meetings to exchange new ideas and bring in more artists and collaborators. In combination with the Franklin Street Events Association and Downtown, the HCAD has succeeded in forming diverse, celebratory events for all forms of art from music to painting. *Nominated by: Kelley Coures*

InSideOut Music Festival—Uniting hundreds of diverse people, the InSideOut Music Festival raised nearly \$10,000 for local non-profits. The festival raised awareness for the LGBTQ community and gained for the arts through the numerous artists who performed. *Nominated by: Andrea Wirth*

Think Pink Productions—Think Pink Productions is an Evansville-based theater company committed to challenging and opening the minds of Evansville. Their participation in the nationwide event The Ghostlight Project is a way for varying voices to be heard in an effort to close the gap between political opinions within the community and make it a safe space for all. Think Pink traditionally puts on difficult productions such as FALSETTOS in an effort to challenge the cast and crew as well who donate their time and effort on a volunteer basis; however, their sole goal in mind is to create a space of diversity and open minds and hearts. *Nominated by: Ashley Riester*

COMMUNITY & NEIGHBORHOOD

Another Chance for Animals—With a vision of every animal deserving a life of love, Another Chance for Animals was created to ensure no animal was pushed to the side. This 100% volunteer run organization coordinates adoption events, foster homes, and much more for the community's homeless shelter animals. *Nominated by: Kimberly Henning*

Nominees, continued

Evansville Area Jeepers—The Evansville Area Jeepers started as a club to bring together active Jeep owners to ride trails with but quickly evolved into an organization dedicated to empowering change in the community. The organization has created an atmosphere of respect and support for law enforcement, helping others through fundraisers for local charities, and awareness of environmental safety.
Nominated by: Monica Crenshaw

It Takes a Village Canine Rescue—It Takes a Village (ITV) has a mission to save dogs regardless of breed, location, or circumstance and adopt them into the community rather than facing euthanasia. ITV houses the dogs, rehabilitates injuries or behavioral issues, and grooms them for foster families and eventually adopting families. The staff of volunteers has helped educate the public on issues of pet owner responsibility and spaying and neutering; they partner with and help grow fundraising events such as Animalpalooza and continue to fight for the legal rights of their canines.
Nominated by: Lori Martin

Ivy Tech Community College, Fifth Third Bank, Memorial Baptist Church and New Hope Baptist Church—Ivy Tech Community College and Fifth Third Bank partnered together to bring the opportunity of free community college to the young members of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church and Memorial Baptist Church through the Achieve Your Degree program. The churches provide transportation, mentoring sessions, and opportunity while Ivy Tech representatives willingly meet with the potential students for help with enrollment, questions, forms and more. The hope for the future of the program is to involve more businesses like Fifth Third Bank and open up opportunities for internships and similar positions.
Nominated by: Alisha Aman

Knob Hill Tavern—Knob Hill Tavern & Restaurant, a local business, is a symbol of the progressive nature of the community. The owners, the Kollers, have taken the restaurant business and made it into a welcoming environment making staff and even customers feel like part of the family.
Nominated by: Harlen Gorman

Youth Resources—Youth Resources empowers the community's younger leaders to make a difference in society through its four programs. With a basis in civic engagement and compassionate leadership, YR fostered the personal growth of nearly 1,000 student leaders last year alone.
Nominated by: Ryan Beal

EDUCATION

The Dream Center—The Dream Center has worked with thousands of children, providing a safe and welcoming environment to Jacobsville's children. From a nutritional program aimed at combatting childhood obesity to homework assistance programs, the Dream Center is preparing the community's children for success.
Nominated by: Jennifer Briggs

ENVIRONMENT

Evansville Water and Sewer Utility (EWSU)—Innovation and collaboration are just two of the admirable qualities that can be applied to the Evansville Water and Sewer Utility and its Renew Evansville program. EWSU has gone the extra step in its efforts to face challenges plaguing the community, welcoming residents and other community members to share their visions of what they envision is left behind when the projects are completed.
Nominated by: Scott Wylie

TruGreen Commercial—TruGreen Commercial is dedicated to promoting a healthy environment for nature's bounty. Through partnerships with many local organizations, TruGreen saved over 400 of the Evansville's ash trees, protecting them when they would have otherwise been removed.
Nominated by: Chris Cooke

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE

Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment (CAJE)—CAJE, a multi-issue organization composed of 21 faith communities, focuses on improving the community's quality of life by examining the root cause of issues within. CAJE recently embarked on a two-year endeavor to place an opiate overdose antidote into the hands of law enforcement in Evansville to save lives and help individuals receive treatment. The organization uses a three step process of leadership: learning to listen with meetings and identifying issues, conducting a research to action process with community leaders, and beginning an investment drive with individuals and local corporations.
Nominated by: Amy DeVries

Evansville Podcast Network—The Evansville Podcast Network is an issue-driven, diversity-based podcast showcasing the heart and soul of Evansville and its citizens. The Burtons started the podcast as a way to share the personal stories of those in the community and as a news outlet for important issues and their potential solutions. The segment "Beyond Repair" ties in humor and local heroes looking to move the community into the next era. In the end, the Podcast Network is all about showing off the diversity and heart of the city.
Nominated by: Steve Burger

Nominees, continued

The Greater Evansville Ball Hall of Fames—Creating a unity amongst all athletes, the Greater Evansville Ball Hall of Fames promotes the region's athletes and their successes. This organization has continued to evolve since its conception, welcoming new sports and their athletes into the fold of the community's sports world. *Nominated by: Chris Cooke*

HRConnects, Inc.—HRConnects is a local staffing and HR firm grown through customer satisfaction and hard work. Their main aim is to find a career for every individual seeking their assistance. The employees behind HRConnects provide a diverse team to help community members with a firm commitment to their customer's success. Aside from individuals, HRConnects seeks to help organizations grow as a whole whether it be as a customer or through charitable contributions. *Nominated by: Shawn Oberreiter*

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Aurora Inc.—Aurora believes every person has value and deserves a safe, decent, and affordable place to call home. Through its numerous programs such as Homeless Outreach and Refugee Homeless Prevention Program, Aurora helps more than 1,000 men, women, and children each year. *Nominated by: Carolyn Dearmond*

Dispensary of Hope—St. Mary's Apothecary and ECHO united under the Dispensary of Hope program to provide prescription medications at an affordable, accessible rate for homeless, low income or uninsured patients. The goal of St. Mary's and ECHO is to combat mental health, poverty, and lack of care running rampant; they simply have a patient fill out one form per year at no charge to determine their eligibility. The program stands to serve those most in need and a strict criteria must be met in order to prevent the abuse of medication and best help improve the lives of those in the community. *Nominated by: St. Mary's Health*

HeartSaver—HeartSaver is responsible for the placement of more than 50 AEDs, automated external defibrillators, within local churches, schools, and organizations. Their work involves raising money to purchase the life-saving medical devices to be placed all over the community and training employees of the recipient organizations on how to use the device in the event of a cardiac crisis. *Nominated by: Mark Moore*

Tri State Community Clinics—Tri State Community Clinics is a regional employee healthcare clinic service provider for over 30 businesses whose main focus is ensuring employers, employees and their families are well taken care of and provided for. TSCC even provides a healthcare model that allows small businesses with less than 50 employees to provide health and wellness care for its employees. The clinic further supports its employer members in their endeavors for promoting health and coach wellness behaviors themselves. *Nominated by: Don Crankshaw*



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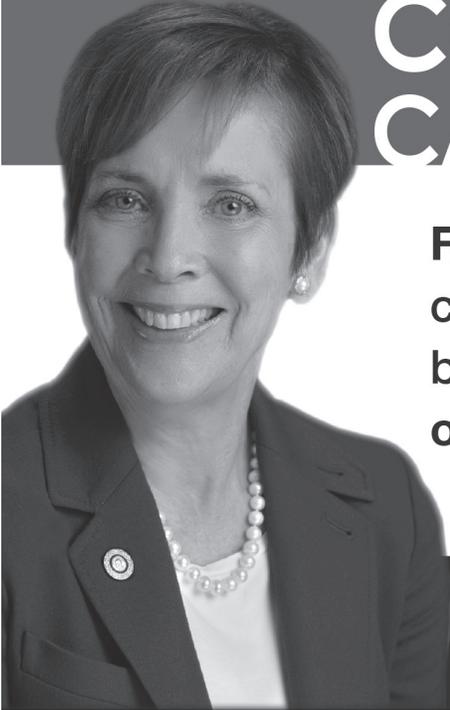
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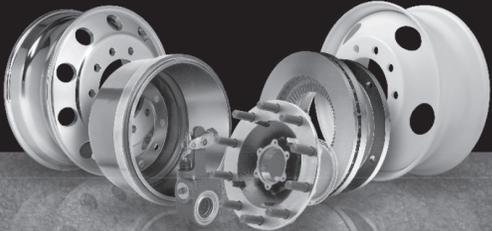
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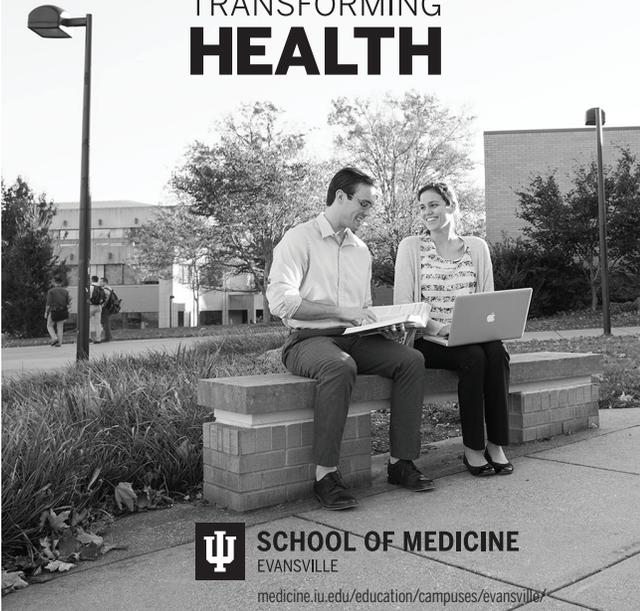
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Larry Renschler, *Romain*
Stephanie Roland, *Old National Bank*
Michael Thissen, *I-69 Innovation Corridor*
Susan Vaughn, *Indiana Economic Development Corporation*
Amy Word-Smith, *Franklin Street Events Assoc.*
Honorary Director- Mayor Lloyd Winnecke, City of Evansville

PAST PRESIDENTS

Suzanne A. Nicholson, 1976-77
William R. Burleigh, 1977-78
N. Keith Emge, 1977-78
David L. Rice, 1978-79
H. Lee Cooper, 1979-80
Suzanne K. Cottone Klapp, 1980-81
Randall D. Wheeler, 1981-82
William Jackson, 1982-83
Marilyn R. Schenetzke, 1983-84
Andrew R. Present, 1984-85
Dale McConaughay, 1985-86
Janice K. Davies, 1986-87
Alan H. Newman, 1987-88
Terry B. Haynie, 1988-89
Michael F. O'Brien, 1989-90

Steve H. Parker, 1990-91
Victor M. Jackson, 1991-92
Jeffrey A. Wilhite, 1992-93
Nancy Gaunt, 1993-94
Jeffrey L. Lake, 1994-95
Michael W. Allee, 1995-96
James S. Morris, 1996-97
Stephen P. Lintzenich, 1997-98
William M. Brown, 1998-99
Ronald W. Seib, 1999-00
Barbara Coyle Williams, 2000-01
Charles Harrington, 2001-02
Lu Porter, 2002-03
Jeffrey A. Berger, 2003-04
Lois W. Duncan, 2004-05

Gregg Utley, 2005-06
D. Stephen Parker, 2006-07
Kathryn Daniel Schymik, 2007-08
Eric Williams, 2008-09
Tom Bailey, 2009-10
Cheryl Steinbacher, 2010
Sean Georges, 2010-11
Greg Freyberger, 2011-13
Court Kull, 2013-14
Linda Negro 2014-15
Shawn Collins 2015-16

The Jefferson Awards



The Jefferson Awards is a national program recognizing outstanding community and public service. The program was established in 1972 by the American Institute for Public Service, an organization founded by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, U.S. Senator Robert Taft Jr. and Sam Beard.

Recipients of the Jefferson Awards are individuals who recognize and give new meaning to the old adage that "one person can make a difference."

Jefferson Awards are also presented on a national level to recipients whose public service has made an impact on the country as a whole. Names of past winners evoke memories of America's greatest achievements over the past quarter of a century. They include Barbara Bush, Rosalynn Carter, Walter Cronkite, John Gardner, Katharine Graham, Alan Greenspan, Henry Kissinger, Wendy Kopp and Gen. Colin Powell.

Local Jefferson Award Recipients

2000

Jim Coy
Jim Fowler
Shirley James
Helen McKinney
Willie Effie Thomas

2001

Bernadine A. Jones
Sr. Mary George Kissel, OSB
William E. Vieth

2002

William Harold Calloway
Gary May
Mary Roberson

2003

Pat Coslett
Bridget McDaniel
Sr. Jane Nesmith, SBS

2004

Sarah & David Kaufman
Estella M. Moss
Honorable Wayne S. Trockman

2005

Officers Billy Bolin & Paul Kirby
Phyllis Kincaid
Wilfred C. "Bill" Bussing III

2006

Rev. Adrian M. Brooks Sr.
Holly Dunn Pendleton
Mike Whicker

2007

Paula Guzzo
Kathryn Martin
Pastor Larry A. Rascoe

2008

Patrick & Lisa Phernetton
Dale Sights
Alfonso Vidal

2009

Andrea Croslyn and
Bala Ambravaneswaran
Rob Kerney
Dennis Myers

2010

Kathy Boyd

2011

Kyle Capin

2012

Scott O'Daniel

2013

Sherry Ocker

2014

Claire Wright
Raegan Ball



Great People Matter.

The EVSC knows that great people are truly what make the difference. With great people leading the way, our students and our community can reach to new heights and succeed in ways we never thought possible.

Congratulations to all our leaders who help make a difference everyday.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THIS YEARS NOMINEES
AND AWARD RECIPIENTS!

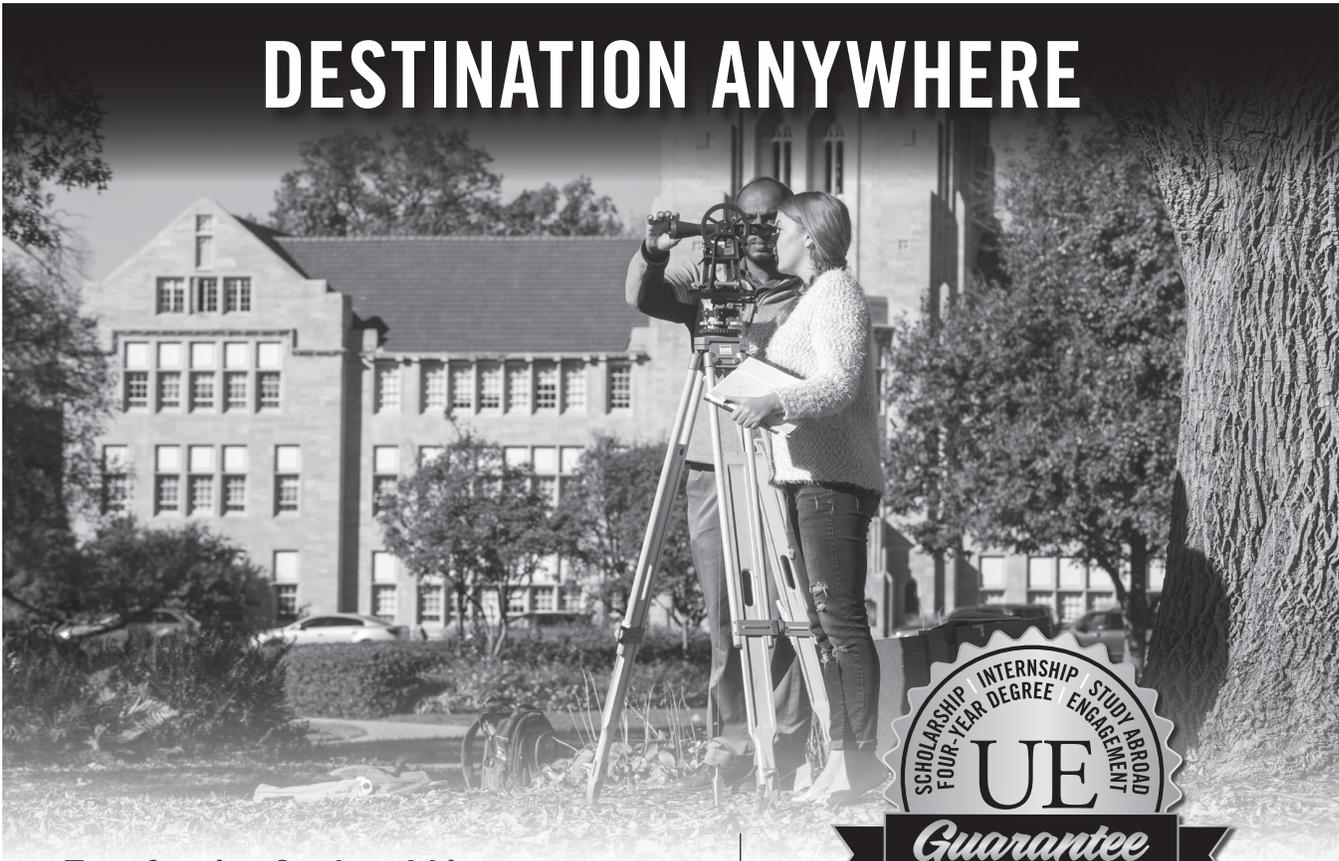
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THE EVANSVILLE COMMUNITY AND BEYOND.

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- Culturally-rich art exhibits
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WHAT LIES AT THE HEART OF A COMMUNITY IS PEOPLE WITH HEART.

Communities aren't an entity, they're made up of individuals. People who dream, reach higher, and ask questions. We've got people like that, too. People who serve businesses with vision, not to mention heart.



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