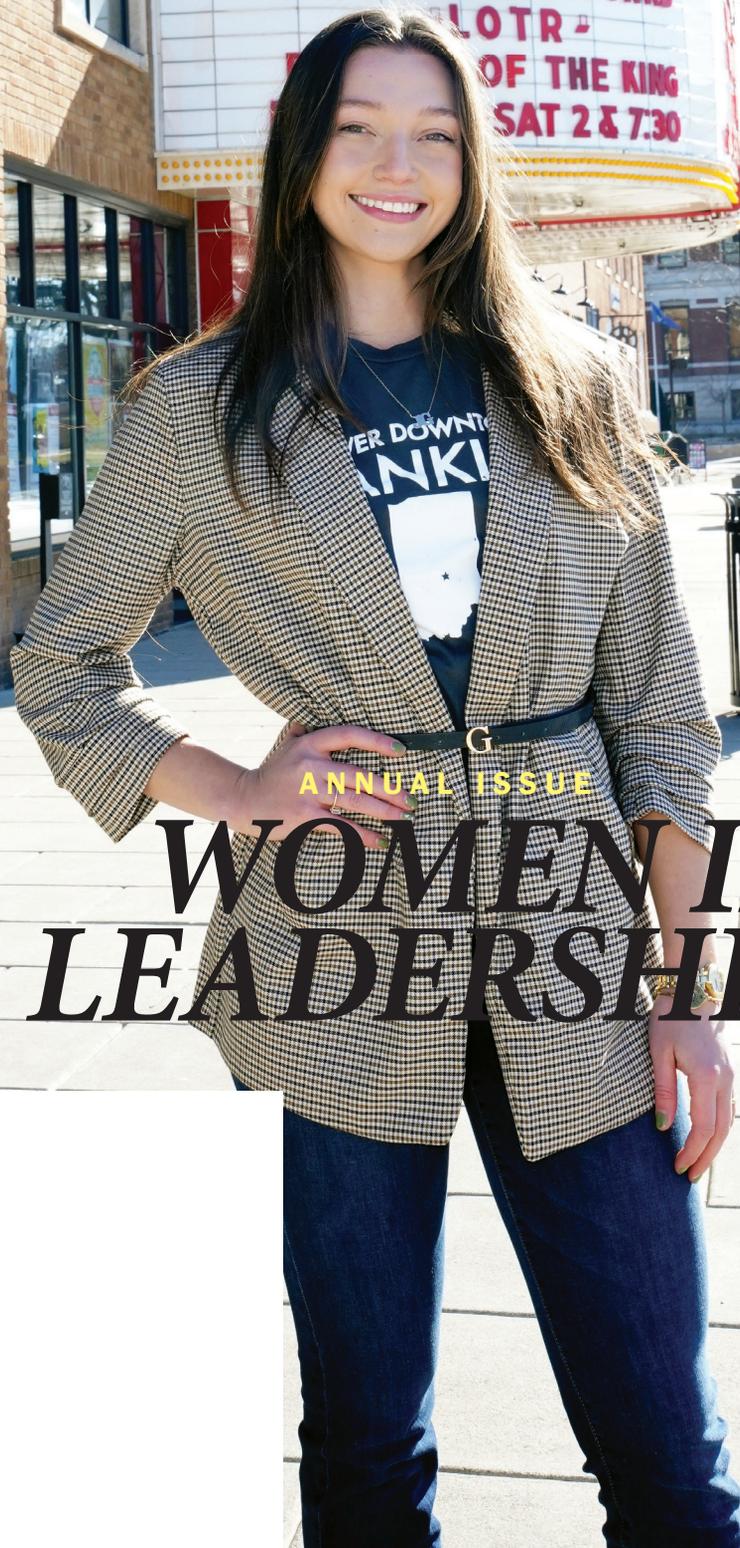


# SOUTHSIDE Business Exchange

SPRING 2022 | A DAILY JOURNAL PUBLICATION

- » Daina Buehling
- » Tammi Fearin-Hickman
- » Jessica Giles
- » Anne McGuinness
- » Angela Vandersteen



ANNUAL ISSUE

## WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
GREENFIELD, IN  
PERMIT NO. 220

# SOUTHSIDE Business Exchange

SPRING 2022 | VOLUME 20 | NUMBER 1



The retail area of Middle Davids Artisan Candles & Gifts in Franklin.

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ON THE COVER  
**Jessica Giles, executive  
director of Discover  
Downtown Franklin**

PHOTO BY MARK FREELAND

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ANNUAL ISSUE

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# WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

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*Saluting some of the southside's  
outstanding women in leadership roles*

COMPILED BY AMY MAY | PHOTOS BY MARK FREELAND



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**Kristin A. St. Pierre**  
Advanced Planning Professional  
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kristin@wilsonstpierre.com

Kristin A. St. Pierre is a licensed Advanced Planning Professional for Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory, Greenwood Chapel. She had spent over 20 years at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals as a senior territory manager. She later joined the family funeral business providing prearranged funeral services to the community.

The Greenwood funeral home is one of the oldest family businesses in Greenwood, serving families at Main Street and U.S. 31. The funeral campus includes a funeral home with seating capacity of over 300, and Johnson County's only crematory, pet crematory, and community center.

Kristin is a graduate of Franklin College, where she was active with Pi Beta Phi and other activities. She is a longtime Greenwood resident. Kristin is married to her husband, Paul, and her kids, Avery and Ryan, attend Center Grove schools. She loves spending time with family and friends.

IN-35097997



**Dr. Allison (Mitchell)  
Stropes, DDS**  
(812) 597-5857  
indiancreekfamilydentistry.com

I am Dr. Allison Stropes. I am a lifelong Johnson County native. I went to Indian Creek schools, I received my Bachelor's at Franklin College, and I attended Indiana University School of Dentistry for my DDS. I absolutely love this area and the people here. I feel honored to be able to care for my wonderful community.

I knew at a young age, after having experienced quite a bit of dentistry, that I wanted to be a dentist. My experiences as a patient changed me for the better. I went from being timid and embarrassed about my smile to being confident and more outgoing. I know firsthand how dentistry can really change a person's life. I knew that I wanted to give that experience to someone else one day.

My philosophy as a dentist is to treat my patients how I would want to be treated. I value developing relationships with my patients and building a foundation of trust and honesty. I understand how important that relationship is and I do not take it for granted. I put a great deal of attention on providing the best care I can in the most gentle way for my patients. In my office we really strive to put people at ease and make it the most pleasant experience possible.

IN-35097845



# Daina Buehling

JOB TITLE: Owner/HR/Treasurer

EMPLOYER NAME: The Glass Guru of Indy South

EMPLOYER ADDRESS: 545 Christy Drive, Ste. 2200, Greenwood, IN 46143

HOBBIES, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Hobbies include camping, cooking, hiking and listening to music.

FAMILY: Husband Eric, son Christopher (estimator) and daughter-in-law, Shelby, son, David, and granddaughter, Addy Mae.

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Shelbyville

POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED, DEGREES EARNED: Indiana University

**WHAT CAREER PATH LED TO YOUR CURRENT POSITION?** On the job experience and a degree in business administration.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?** Our team and the customers.

**WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU FACE?** Labor force and supply chain issues.

**HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE YOUR LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY OR STYLE?** Lead by example!

**HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED ANY CAREER ROADBLOCKS AS A WOMAN?** Lack of opportunity and support early on in my life.

**WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR YOUNG WOMEN HOPING TO ADVANCE IN YOUR FIELD?** Learn, learn, learn; anything and everything you can about the business and your market.

**WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE YOU EVER HAD AT WORK?** I received a photo from our account manager at the Daily Journal on Halloween. She was sitting at my desk in a Winnie the Pooh costume.

**WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GREW UP? HOW CLOSE IS YOUR CAREER TO THAT CHILDHOOD DREAM?** I wanted to be a math teacher and author. I do think I incorporate those passions into my daily life at The Glass Guru. Our motto is to first teach our customers about their home goods and secondly, how to repair/replace those goods. I also write a lot of ads, standard operating procedures (SOP), legal documents, human resources documents, etc. My passions also include a lot of math. I am responsible for all accounting and company projections.



**health  
markets**

**Danna Green**  
Insurance Broker

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dgreen@HealthMarkets.com

Danna Green, with HealthMarkets, has been a health insurance broker since 2012, with a passion for helping her clients find the most comprehensive plan at an affordable price. Danna works with over 200 lines of health insurance products from specializing in the Senior Market, Medicare and Individual health coverage, along with Small Group Health plans.

If you are in need of a health plan, Danna is here to help you customize a plan that helps fit your family's specific needs. Danna has two

full time assistants, one who is also licensed, who work closely with her. You will never have to worry, as Danna and her team, will be with you from start to finish. Danna would be honored to be your lifelong health insurance broker transitioning from under age 65 health care to Medicare, which is her specialty.

Danna is a Gold Chairman's Club member, where she is proud to have been recognized nationally as one of the top 30 agents out of several thousand with HealthMarkets. She was recently ranked the #1 Agent for Health Insurance and is a 2022 Elite Circle of Champions Broker. Danna also sits on the Aetna Broker Advisory Committee and is proud to sponsor many of the schools' events here locally. Danna has three active teenagers who keep her busy while she is not in the office.

Stop by and see Danna and her staff at 3100 Meridian Parke Drive Suite O, Greenwood, IN 46142

# Tammi Fearin-Hickman

JOB TITLE: CASA director (Court Appointed Special Advocates)

EMPLOYER NAME: Johnson Circuit Court/Johnson County CASA Program

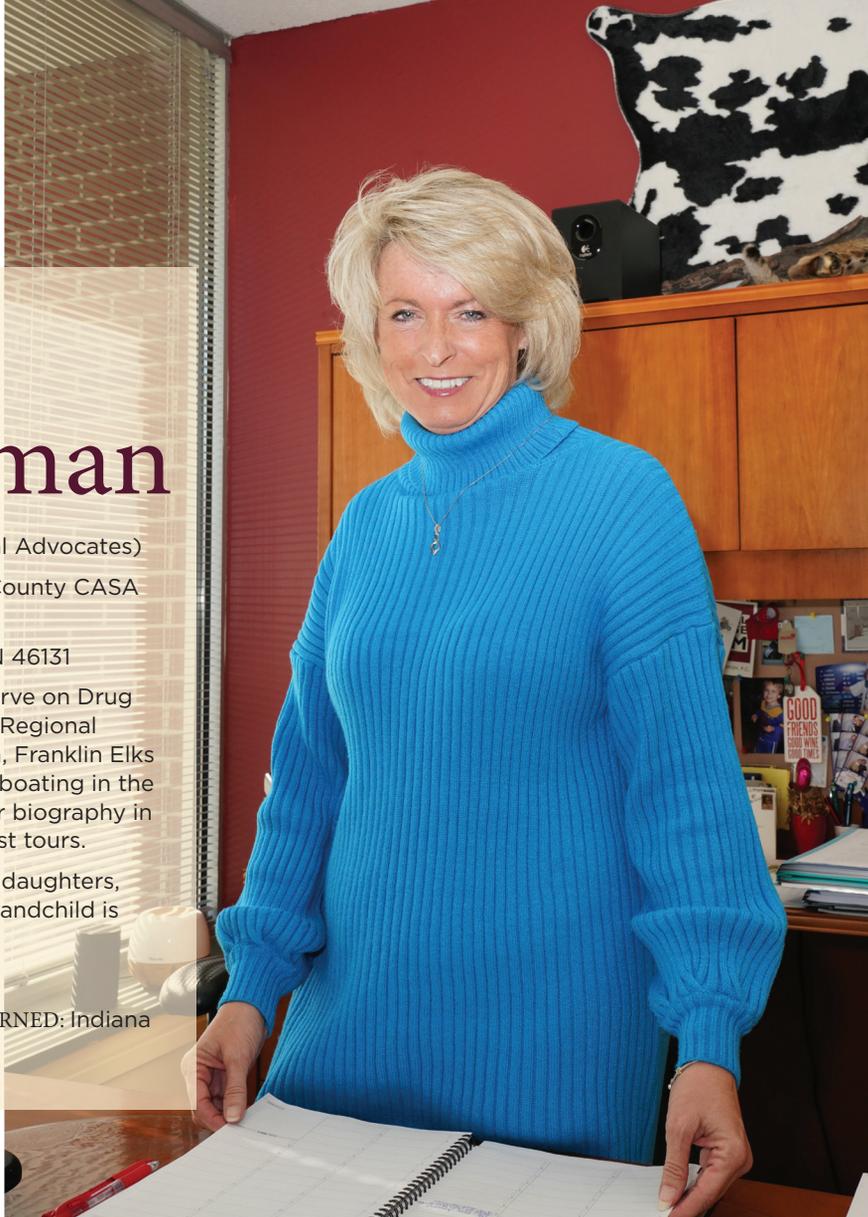
EMPLOYER ADDRESS: 18 W. Jefferson St., Franklin, IN 46131

HOBBIES, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: I currently serve on Drug Free Johnson County, Child Service Planning, DCS Regional Council, Child Fatality Team, Child Protection Team, Franklin Elks and also Franklin Tri Kappa. My favorite activity is boating in the summer months and reading any historical novel or biography in my spare time. When I travel, I love to look for ghost tours.

FAMILY: Married to Steven Hickman and I have two daughters, Farin and Caitlyn and her husband Jake. My first grandchild is expected to make a debut in April.

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Franklin

POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED, DEGREES EARNED: Indiana University, degree not completed.



**WHAT CAREER PATH LED TO YOUR CURRENT POSITION?** I became a CASA volunteer when my children were young and I was a stay at home mother. I was looking for an opportunity to become involved in an organization that could make an impact in my community.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?** The constant challenge each case brings and the number of people I have met over the years.

**WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU FACE?** The turnover rate with the other organizations CASA works with creates a challenge because every new person needs time to become acclimated to the case and yet the clock never stops ticking. Also, meeting the needs of the family where they are and not

raising the bar to a level they can't meet, setting them up for failure is also a challenge. Knowing the difference between those two requires collaboration and communication between all agencies involved.

**HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE YOUR LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY OR STYLE?** I would define it as strategic leadership. I like to think I bring a warrior mentality to the CASA Program, a warrior not only for the children we advocate for but also for the CASA volunteers who offer their time, dedication and attention to the children. I endeavor each day to make sure that not only are the voices of the children heard by the court, but also the voices of the CASA volunteers who know these children better than most in

the courtroom. At the same time, I have to make sure each CASA volunteer knows the boundaries of the statutes that apply to the cases and how the court reaches a decision. Balancing the integrity of the CASA program along with the CASA volunteers is my main objective.

**HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED ANY CAREER ROADBLOCKS AS A WOMAN?** No, I don't believe I have. I have been fortunate to work with many successful women both locally and throughout the CASA network. I think the biggest hurdle is reminding everyone that the CASA Program is statutorily required and the work has been validated by the State Supreme Court and the Indiana legislature.

**WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR YOUNG WOMEN HOPING TO ADVANCE IN YOUR FIELD?** Dedication and determination! Understanding the value of family and how definition of family can differ from your own. Having an appreciation for the role each person brings to these cases and willingness to include everyone at the table when the hard work needs to be done.

**WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE YOU EVER HAD AT WORK?** Each year, the CASA program hosts a Christmas party for all the children and families we serve. The party includes a catered dinner, Santa Claus and professional photographer along with toys and gifts for each child. I had a young girl who had attended the Christmas party the previous few years but she was recently adopted. At the adoption celebration, she approached me and asked if her adoption meant she wouldn't be invited to the CASA Christmas party anymore!

**WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GREW UP? HOW CLOSE IS YOUR CAREER TO THAT CHILDHOOD DREAM?** After realizing my first dream of becoming a roller derby queen might not be feasible, I often thought of a career in law enforcement. My grandfather was a police chief in my home state of Kentucky and he was the person I most admired. Although I never became a police officer, being with CASA allows me to work with law enforcement, the courts and others involved so a complete picture can be provided to the court on the best interest of the children.



**Amy Hamilton  
& Liz Storm**  
Teen Librarians  
[PageAfterPage.org](http://PageAfterPage.org)



JCPL Teen Librarians Amy Hamilton and Liz Storm realized if they wanted to establish better connections with teens in the community, it was time for an innovative program. Their collaboration initiated Lit Loot, a monthly Library service for personalized bundles that include borrowed library materials, crafts or swag, plus a book to keep.

"Connecting with teens is an ongoing challenge," Amy said, "due to their busy schedules and activities." The flexibility of Lit Loot proved to be the solution; teens complete an online survey and librarians prepare a Lit Loot bundle.

Since September of 2021, 191 teens have joined. Not only has the program successfully introduced a larger teen population to the Library, but it has also proved valuable in customizing young adult services. According to Liz, "The feedback from the program has helped improve all of JCPL's teen services."

JCPL salutes these women for their contribution to the teens in our community.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



Angela Vandersteen, above, and Anne McGuinness.







**Kim Henderson**  
Financial Advisor  
(317) 494-6250  
Kim.Henderson@edwardjones.com  
99 W. JEFFERSON ST.  
FRANKLIN, IN 46131

I hope to be known for my caring nature. I strive to be easy to talk to, someone you can trust and who can help walk you through life's events. Whether you are just getting started with investing for your future or you are well on your way, I can develop personalized strategies to help you reach your financial goals. I will work with you to help ensure you stay on track, adjusting as needed, all while providing exceptional client service. I am committed to helping you succeed. It is important to me that you understand where your money is going, how it is being invested and how that aligns with your risk tolerance and goals. Periods of transition are a good time to meet with a financial advisor. There is no cost to you for a consultation. I can provide assistance with a complimentary review of your portfolio, options for your 401k or IRA with a previous employer, accounts that have not received much attention or any other financial need or question you might have.

I also believe in giving back to the communities in which I serve. Some of my community involvement includes serving as a board member for Girls Inc. of Johnson County, a member of the Finance Committee at Johnson County Community Foundation and a 2017 graduate of Leadership Johnson County.

Between the pandemic and market volatility, you're sure to be facing a lot of stress. We're here for you -- ready to listen, support and navigate this together. With Edward Jones entering its 100th year of business, we have the experience to help guide you through the ups and downs. I look forward to the opportunity to partner with you on your life's journey. Contact me for an appointment today!

Email me to sign up for Edward Jones' monthly Perspective newsletters and weekly Market Updates.

IN-35897745





**Amanda Nixon**  
Owner  
(317) 738-2188  
717 Commerce Dr., Franklin

Amanda Nixon is the Director of Le Rose Dance Academy in Franklin, Indiana. Born and raised in Johnson County, she graduated from Franklin Community High School as a four time varsity cheerleader. After which, she worked as a staff member of National Cheerleaders Association for six years.

Upon purchasing the businesses from her beloved teacher and mentor who had previously owned the studio for 30 years, Le Rose has continued to flourish for 27 years under her ownership. Since that time, she has made many personal and professional accomplishments. Amanda is active in numerous organizations, and participates in many local and regional events. She has been an active member of the National Federation of Independent Businesses for ten years, International Dance Entrepreneurs Association (IDEA) for five years, and the Franklin Chamber of Commerce for ten years. She works tirelessly to make sure her studio is a part of the community of Franklin by participating in many events such as parades and festivals. With the help of her staff of 10, her dancers have participated in many events such as the Indy 500 parade, the Circle of Lights for six years, and the Evansville Philharmonic Peppermint Pops for two years. Amanda has also taken her competitive dance team, the Rosettes, to Walt Disney World to perform and participate in classes with professional choreographers of Disney.

Le Rose Dance Academy is a studio that prides itself for being all-inclusive, offering classes for those of all ages and abilities. She specifically has classes for students with special needs that focus on developing gross motor skills, self expression and socialization techniques. Amanda is extremely passionate in not only building each student's dance ability, but also their self-confidence. It is her mission to provide a positive and caring environment for all dancers.

IN-35897534

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# Jessica Giles

JOB TITLE: Executive director

EMPLOYER NAME: Discover Downtown Franklin

EMPLOYER ADDRESS: 70 E. Monroe St., Franklin IN 46131

HOBBIES, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Vintage shopping, reading. Community involvement includes participating on committees for the Franklin Chamber of Commerce; Franklin Heritage Inc; and the Johnson County Museum of History. I am also a First Scholar's mentor for Franklin Community High School and a member of the Franklin Public Arts Advisory Commission.

FAMILY: Evan (husband) and Hank (fluffy puppy)

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Franklin

POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED, DEGREES EARNED: Bachelor of Science in Human Biology from Indiana University - Bloomington



**WHAT CAREER PATH LED TO YOUR CURRENT POSITION?** I essentially did a 180-degree turn from my original career choice, and wanted to focus more on what would make me feel fulfilled rather than what directly correlated to my studies. The thought of working with community leaders as well as individuals who dedicated their free time to the improvement and sustainability of a city inspired me to pursue the nonprofit sphere.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?** I love working with people — especially passionate people. My job is all about partnerships: with government entities, other nonprofits, sponsors, business owners and community members. There is a certain level of creativity and daily

unexpectedness that makes my work refreshing.

**WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU FACE?** I would say the largest challenge is operating in a shifting economy and age of technology — not to mention a lingering pandemic. Change is difficult to navigate, both within our growing organization and on a community level. The daily question isn't "How can we maintain our mission?" but rather "How can our mission shift to best serve the local needs of today?"

**HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE YOUR LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY OR STYLE?** I enjoy working in a team fashion, where everyone's efforts contribute to achieving an overall goal. It never

ceases to amaze me how valuable a connection or discussion could be, so all individuals and ideas are welcome to the table.

**HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED ANY CAREER ROADBLOCKS AS A WOMAN?** Thus far, I have not. I am lucky enough to be surrounded by encouraging and supportive board members and partners, so my opinion and voice are never overshadowed.

**WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR YOUNG WOMEN HOPING TO ADVANCE IN YOUR FIELD?** Search for other strong women! Ask them to lunch right away and pick their brains for how you can improve and connect.

SEE PAGE 18

# PROUDLY SLANTING THE PLAYING FIELD IN YOUR DIRECTION.

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competitive advantage.

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*Aspire*  
economic development  
+ chamber alliance

[AspireJohnsonCounty.com](http://AspireJohnsonCounty.com)



# Anne McGuinness

**JOB TITLE:** Vice-president of Human Resources & Trust Services

**EMPLOYER NAME:** Mutual Savings Bank

**EMPLOYER ADDRESS:** 80 E. Jefferson St., Franklin, IN 46131

**HOBBIES, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** I am on the Franklin City Council, vice president of the Franklin Redevelopment Commission and secretary of the Johnson County Republican Central Committee. When I have some free time, I love following my kids' sports, reading a good book, and hanging with the best group of friends and family.

**FAMILY:** I have been married to my husband, Joe, for 20 years and we have two kids, Will, a senior at Franklin Community High School, and Ella, a freshman at FCHS.

**PLACE OF RESIDENCE:** Franklin

**POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED, DEGREES EARNED:** IU-Bloomington, double bachelor's in Psychology and Criminal Justice, 1996; The John Marshall Law School (now University of Illinois-Chicago Law School), J.D., 2000.



**WHAT CAREER PATH LED TO YOUR CURRENT POSITION?** I practiced law for 20 years in both the private and public sectors. I came to Mutual Savings Bank to concentrate on trust and estate work as it has always been an interest of mine since law school.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?** I was working in state government in Indianapolis before coming to the bank. I love being back in my community every day working for a company that values community involvement.

**WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU FACE?** I think it is helping people understand what it is that I do. I get a lot of questions about what a trust department does, and I want to educate the community about the real-life benefits of estate planning and that it is not as scary as it seems.

**HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE YOUR LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY OR STYLE?** I believe in working with people smarter than me. I work with some very talented and smart people who teach me new things every day. My grandfather also taught me to never "pass the buck." When called on

to make a decision, make it and believe in it. I always want people to know where I stand.

**HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED ANY CAREER ROADBLOCKS AS A WOMAN?** Absolutely, but I've taken those moments and used them as motivation.

**WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR YOUNG WOMEN HOPING TO ADVANCE IN YOUR FIELD?** Nothing replaces work ethic. If you don't have it, don't bother.

**WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE YOU EVER HAD AT WORK?** I spent a large part of my career handling criminal cases and have way too many interesting stories to share in just one article.

**WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GREW UP? HOW CLOSE IS YOUR CAREER TO THAT CHILDHOOD DREAM?** Apparently, I'm boring and predictable because I've wanted to be an attorney since I was in middle school. I sometimes wonder if I should have explored other careers, but I think I ended up exactly where I am supposed to be.

## The Women of the Daily Journal - AIM Media Indiana Team



*Back Row (L to R):* Trish Akers, Chris Cosner, Leeann Doerflein, Kelsey Hardman, Nikki Caudle  
*Front Row (L to R):* Carissa Gruszczyk, Cindy Warren, Dasee Johnson

The women of the Daily Journal - AIM Media Indiana advertising team represent over 150 years of marketing and advertising experience. Let us help you with your print, online, SEO or social media boost. Call to set up an appointment today. We customize marketing plans based on your individual needs.

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# Angela Vandersteen

**JOB TITLE:** Vice President of Investor Development + Relations

**EMPLOYER NAME:** Aspire Economic Development + Chamber Alliance

**EMPLOYER ADDRESS:** Two offices — 1499 Windhorst Way, Greenwood, IN 46143; 66 Water St., Franklin, IN 46131

**HOBBIES, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** I am an avid reader and have actually grown to the point where I enjoy exercising, especially long walks while listening to podcasts. I am currently on the boards for the Autism Society of Indiana and the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities and was formerly a board member of the Diversity Roundtable of Central Indiana. My passion is disability inclusion, particularly in employment, and I try to stay as updated and involved on what is happening in this space as possible.

**FAMILY:** Husband, Rick; sons, Ricky, twins, Ray and David, and Eddie; rescue dog, Gunner

**PLACE OF RESIDENCE:** Greenwood

**POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED, DEGREES EARNED:** Bachelor of Science in Communications and English from Indiana State University



**WHAT CAREER PATH LED TO YOUR CURRENT POSITION?** Although I had a very traditional career path that included gradual increases in responsibilities, title and recognition, I had not worked for a chamber or in economic development before coming to Aspire. I started out in broadcasting, working my way up into sales before moving into the non-profit sector doing business development and fundraising. As many did during the course of the pandemic, I began to analyze where I was, what I wanted to do, and where I wanted to be. Conversations with friends and colleagues led to them sending me job postings, and the open position at Aspire was among these.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?** When I was in advertising sales I greatly enjoyed seeing the growth

and success my clients had over time and I am able again to watch businesses use our tools and resources to thrive. That is extremely satisfying, especially when working with new or small businesses. I also love how this position has made me feel more connected to the community we choose to live and raise our family in.

**WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU FACE?** In this role I feel it is managing my availability for all who are invested in Aspire. I want to give to all our members, our volunteers, and my staff the time they want from me and be fully engaged when I am with them. I never want anyone to think that I am not giving them enough time. This can be challenging and I am still learning how to manage this effectively.

**HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE YOUR LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY OR STYLE?** I am here to teach or coach my direct reports, not dictate, and I feel this type of leadership style works well for most. My role at first is to direct and provide the guidance and tools needed for someone to do their work effectively. Then it is a constant cycle of observation, measure, redirect or demonstrate, then release them and start my observation again. I also strive to show the same compassion that has been shown to me. Our work is important but I never want someone who reports to me to feel I do not care about them, their family and their well-being.

SEE PAGE 19



## CASE STUDY: LARGE BUSINESS

### Berry Global

#### How does the Franklin Chamber of Commerce benefit your business?

We enjoy the wealth of information that the Franklin Chamber shares with its members throughout the month. We are able to connect with local business leaders to forge strong professional relationships that help us achieve strategic goals.

→ Read the rest of the case study at [franklincoc.org/case-study-large-business](http://franklincoc.org/case-study-large-business)



*believe & belong:*

Believe in Franklin. Belong to the Chamber.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Look for event details and updates at [franklincoc.org](http://franklincoc.org).

### MARCH

**ANNUAL MEETING** featuring  
*Franklin's State of the City Address*  
**Date:** March 10, 2022  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., doors open at 11:00 a.m.

### APRIL

**CHAMBER LUNCHEON**  
**Date:** April 14, 2022  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

### MAY

**CHAMBER LUNCHEON**  
**Date:** May 12, 2022  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

*Events may be impacted by emerging health and safety guidelines related to COVID-19. Visit [franklincoc.org](http://franklincoc.org) for latest event updates.*



120 East Jefferson Street | Franklin, IN 46131

**P:** 317-736-6334 **F:** 317-736-9553 | **W:** [franklincoc.org](http://franklincoc.org) |



**WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE YOU EVER HAD AT WORK?** I have realized that I possess no talent with estimation. I should have known after doing so abysmally in the "Guess the Number of M&M's In the Jar" game as a kid. So, for our Strawberries on the Square event, I assumed that the two pallets of water bottles of which we already possessed would suffice (In my head, I'm thinking we had almost 5,000 bottles). Nope. I found out two days before the event, when we actually decided to count, that the sum was closer to 2,000. That led to a mad dash to every local grocery store and very sore upper extremities from hauling cases of water! I am no longer in charge of estimating.

**WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GREW UP?** How close is your career to that childhood dream? I wanted to be a dentist — like Hermey the Elf on Rudolph! I had wonderful experiences at my general dentist's office as well as at Dr. Daniel S. Martin's Orthodontic office (the colorful bands ARE fun). Both jobs exist to help others feel empowered — I just don't utilize a dental scaler as frequently!



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**1000 N. STATE ROAD 135**  
**GREENWOOD**

Selective Seconds is a women's clothing, accessories and home décor resale store. The owner opened in 1997 with \$1,000 investment, and the first item ever sold was a pair of blue suede shoes. Now, 25 years later, Vena has 16 employees and formed "Blue Suede Properties" which recently purchased a building on SR 135, across from McAlisters.

- People are always looking for ways to SAVE money and they can usually save 50-80% by shopping resale.
- People are always looking for ways to MAKE money. We give suppliers a choice of selling for instant cash or consigning their items and waiting for items to sell.
- We are a small business which helps keep money in our local area.
- We are promoting recycling which helps our environment.

Because of COVID, we are reaching customers in different ways. We've had to pivot our business and be creative. Not only can customers still shop at our brick & mortar store, but they can also shop from our website and from our LIVE SHOWS on Facebook (shipping available). Selective Seconds also purchases customer returns & overstocks of apparel from the TV shopping channel QVC. Customers can buy these items at 50-75% off retail.

Vena is a member of NARTS (the Association of Resale Professionals) also a member of ARI (Association of Resale Innovation) and values the knowledge and friendships gained from networking with similar businesses across the country. Selective Seconds is located at 1000 N. State Road 135, Greenwood, IN (directly across from McAlisters) and is open Tuesday-Sunday. You can shop online at [www.SelectiveSeconds.com](http://www.SelectiveSeconds.com) or watch their live shows on Facebook on Selective Seconds Shoppers Lounge.

IN-35097717





**Daina Buehling**  
Owner  
**317-550-1450**  
**545 CHRISTY DR SUITE 2200,**  
**GREENWOOD**

My name is Daina Buehling. I am the owner of The Glass Guru of Indy South. My career path has changed over the years. 10 years ago I decided that I wanted a career in business/finance; with the hopes of becoming an entrepreneur. I began my journey by getting my degree and I went to work for a company that gave me the opportunity to learn finance. After spending 5 years with that company, I moved to a company that would allow me to use the skills that I had acquired. I went to work for The Glass Guru. I worked for the previous owner for 2 years; when one day he told me that he was looking for a buyer for The Glass Guru. I purchased the business on 09/19/2019. Six months later Covid-19 became a pandemic. I was very concerned about losing the business due to the economy and this virus. Then I learned that I was considered an essential business and could continue to operate. The amount of business required me to hire another glazer. However, with the federal supplemental pay I was not able to find someone to fill that position. I was able to find a great office coordinator, so that I could work in the field. I decided that I was going to learn to do estimates and my estimator proceeded to learn how to install glass in windows, doors, showers, pet doors, and tabletops. I was able to keep the original glazer, however he now needed to learn to do wood rot restorations. I still continued to have more business than I could handle, so I learned how to install glass as well. Now here I am... I have learned all facets of owning and running this business and I am now more capable of operating this business with the knowledge that I learned in the field and continue to learn every day. I am confident that as the owner, COO, and treasurer that I will be able to grow this company. It has not been the easiest 10 years, however I am a better woman, boss, and mother for the challenges that I have had to overcome.

**WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: VANDERSTEEN CONTINUED**

**HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED ANY CAREER ROADBLOCKS AS A WOMAN?** I do not feel I have faced any roadblocks as a women internally at the organizations I have worked for. That could be from working in more progressive industries that have had women in leadership roles for a longer period of time. I have felt bias from outside my organizations, from prospects or others I was meeting with, but often this was more in response to my disability than to being a woman. I remember a particular incident from early in my sales career where I was scheduled to meet the new owner of a business that had advertised with my station for years. After being at the restaurant for nearly a half hour after our appointment time and having asked everyone there if they were meeting someone, I left. I called the new owner the next day and he admitted he was there and didn't like how I walked funny. It is hard knowing some will not give you an equal shake because of your gender or disability, and so I work hard to succeed without them and prove their misconceptions wrong.

**WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR YOUNG WOMEN HOPING TO ADVANCE IN YOUR FIELD?** If you are not in a sales or development role now do not feel you cannot make the change. There are many skills from other roles and industries that transfer well into sales. Highlight those skills in your resume, and in interviews tell how your skills will transfer to the role you want by sharing stories and relevant experiences. Also, when applying for a job, do not skip applying for something because the title is a few steps away from the title you have now. Look at the job description and if the roles and responsibilities match your skill set, apply! And if the opportunity you want does not exist where you are now or you feel you keep getting passed over, look elsewhere. Know your worth and find the organization that knows it, too!

**WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE YOU EVER HAD AT WORK?** I've fallen out of a chair twice on live TV when I was an intern. It was funny then and even funnier now.



**WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GREW UP? HOW CLOSE IS YOUR CAREER TO THAT CHILDHOOD DREAM?** I wanted to be the next Jane Pauley. My parents were avid news watchers and I thought people would think I was really smart if I led the news. I might not be in front of a camera daily, but I still do a fair amount of research, I ask a lot of questions, and have to be "on" when in front of people. Not the same, but somewhat similar!



**Debbie Cottingham**  
Owner

(317)445-1587  
[www.CottinghamRealty.com](http://www.CottinghamRealty.com)

Debbie Cottingham started Cottingham Realty in 1983. She has a full team of licensed realtors, appraisers and administrative staff and loves getting to know her clients. Her most recent project is developing Stones Bay Phase attached homes. These custom (maintenance free) homes are going fast with only 4 lots left with all brick high-end finishes right in the heart of Center Grove.

Debbie is a proud member of the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of Realtors (MIBOR), an associate member of the Appraisal Institute, a member of the National Association of Realtors (NAR), a member of the Collateral Risk Network Group (CRN) as well as a member of the Aspire Economic Development. Debbie is proud to be a part of the 2017 Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County Women's Build "Team Bay Horse Inn."

Debbie lives in Greenwood with her husband Terry and loves spending time with her kids, grandkids and friends. She attends Greenwood Christian Church and takes great pride in gardening and spending time with her horses. She spends most of her free time cheering on her eight grandkids at a variety of events, enjoys bridge and loves attending the symphony and live music events.

IN-35097604



**Amanda Johnson**  
Owner

317.760.8778  
[Events@BarnatBayHorse.com](mailto:Events@BarnatBayHorse.com)

Amanda Johnson opened the Bay Horse Inn in September of 2016. While she has spent nearly 25 years in the Real Estate and Appraisal business, she saw a need for our community to have a unique event center. The Barn at Bay Horse Inn is the perfect setting for weddings, fundraisers, corporate events, as well as, team celebrations and banquets. The Saloon at Bay Horse Inn is ideal for smaller events such as anniversaries, birthday parties and holiday parties.

Amanda is a member of The Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of Realtors (MIBOR), as well as, the Franklin and Greenwood Chambers of Commerce. She also proudly served on the board for the Center Grove Education Foundation for the last 4 years. Amanda has always been an advocate of locally owned businesses in the community. The Bay Horse Inn is also proud to support many local non-for-profit groups such as The Social of Greenwood and Habitat for Humanity along with several school and club groups on the southside.

Amanda lives in Bargersville with her husband Dallas and their four children. Her and her husband also own and operate Johnson's Hauling and Excavating. They love supporting the local school athletics and arts programs and attending many events. Amanda enjoys spending time with family and friends, trying new local restaurants and traveling. She feels blessed to have found a career and passion that has allowed her to plant roots in her community and pursue her and her family's dreams and interests.

IN-35097598

## COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMITS

### OCTOBER

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

3212 E. County Road 600N,  
Whiteland  
Education/Government  
Electrical Upgrade  
\$9,000

### DECEMBER

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

361 Shadow Hill Drive,  
Greenwood  
Indoor Wireless  
Verizon Cell Tower Node  
\$43,000

3477 S. County Road 200E,  
Franklin  
Fathouse Fabrications/JBJ  
Industries, LLC  
Electrical Upgrade  
\$50,197.43

### JANUARY

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

425 N. Peterman Road,  
Greenwood  
Bowlin Communications  
Verizon Cell Tower Node  
\$38,000

324 Shadow Hill Drive,  
Greenwood  
Bowlin Communications  
Verizon Cell Tower Node  
\$43,000

301 Shadow Hill Drive,  
Greenwood  
Bowlin Communications  
Verizon Cell Tower Node  
\$43,000

3924 Shadow Hill Lane,  
Greenwood  
Bowlin Communications  
Verizon Cell Tower Node  
\$43,000

4467 W. County Line Road,  
Greenwood  
W & R Meyer Real Estate, LLC

Electrical Upgrade  
Contractor: Bowlin  
Communications, LLC  
\$5,000

738 Division Road, Franklin  
Wright McMillion Family Trust  
Electrical Upgrade  
Contractor: Bowlin  
Communications, LLC  
\$5,000

6352 N. County Road 200E,  
Whiteland  
Larry J. & Latheda M. Noonan  
Electrical Upgrade  
Contractor: Bowlin  
Communications, LLC  
\$5,000

0 S. County Road 550E,  
Franklin  
Danny L. & Judy Gill  
Electrical Upgrade  
Contractor: Bowlin  
Communications, LLC  
\$5,000

0 Yoke Road, Indianapolis  
Roland & Davis Hutchinson  
Electrical Upgrade  
Contractor: Bowlin  
Communications, LLC  
\$5,000

### NOVEMBER

#### FRANKLIN

700 Bartram Parkway  
Tippmann Group  
Commercial Addition  
Contractor: Tippmann  
Construction  
\$918,750

89 Forest Road  
165 Indianapolis Logistics  
Center South  
Commercial Remodel  
Contractor: GDI Construction  
\$886,152

1100-1110 N. Methodist Drive  
Franklin United Methodist  
Home  
Demolition  
Contractor: Ray's Demolition,  
LLC

1090 N. Methodist Drive  
Franklin United Methodist  
Home  
Demolition  
Contractor: Ray's Demolition,  
LLC  
1070-1080 N. Methodist Drive  
Franklin United Methodist  
Home  
Demolition  
Contractor: Ray's Demolition,  
LLC  
1060 N. Methodist Drive  
Franklin United Methodist  
Home  
Demolition  
Contractor: Ray's Demolition,  
LLC

180 W. Methodist Drive  
Franklin United Methodist  
Home  
Demolition  
Contractor: Ray's Demolition,  
LLC

199 E. Madison St.  
Flipside Property Group  
Demolition  
Contractor: Flipside Property  
Group

### DECEMBER

#### FRANKLIN

951 Park Ave.  
Franklin College  
New Commercial  
Contractor: Dunlap &  
Company, Inc.  
\$1,700,000

201 E. Jefferson St.  
Horizon Property Group  
Commercial Remodel  
Contractor: Rick Campbell  
Builder  
\$100,000

70/90 W. Jefferson St.  
Bette Emry  
Commercial Remodel  
Contractor: Campbell's  
Homestead  
\$100,000





*Carolyn Darr*  
Mortgage Loan Officer  
NMLS#452620  
**317.850.4742**  
**cdarr@bawfg.com**

*Carolyn has been a mortgage consultant for 30 years and has been very active in the community. She currently serves as a Board Member with Camp Allendale Christian Camp and Retreat Center, and has volunteered in different areas of Habitat for Humanity for several years. With Carolyn being community centered, she was inspired to work for Bailey & Wood Mortgage Lender 5 years ago. She feels like it was a perfect match joining forces with a local lender who constantly is giving back to the communities they serve!*

*Carolyn's biggest passion is to help people achieve their financial goals to become homeowners! She loves helping family's with their mortgage lending needs, whether it is buying or refinancing a home, Carolyn is always there to help!*

**Give her a call for all your mortgage lending needs!**

## RIBBON CUTTINGS

### FRANKLIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND ASPIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT + CHAMBER ALLIANCE



Homeview Health and Rehabilitation Center, located at 651 State St. in Franklin, celebrated the opening of its memory care unit on Nov. 30 with the Franklin Chamber of Commerce.



The Franklin Chamber and Aspire Economic Development + Chamber Alliance conducted a joint ribbon cutting on Jan. 20 for Redwood Living Apartments, located at 5934 Redwood Way in Greenwood, to celebrate their opening of 100 units.



**Leslie Beeson**  
Vice President  
(317)535-9338  
[www.BeesonCo.com](http://www.BeesonCo.com)  
501 MAIN ST.  
WHITELAND, IN

Beeson Mechanical Service is a local family owned business that was started in January of 2000 in Whiteland, owned by Kent and Leslie Beeson, both born and raised in Johnson County. Leslie is the majority owner. They specialize in residential, commercial, and industrial heating, cooling, refrigeration, and electrical work. This also includes piping, water heaters, indoor air quality, custom metal fabrication, dehumidifier repair, geothermal systems, and unusual applications.

Beeson is ready to help you with all of your heating & cooling, electrical, and plumbing needs. Beeson services

and installs HVAC systems, electrical, and plumbing for both residential and commercial customers in Johnson County and surrounding areas. Beeson carries products from Bosch, Fujitsu, Aprilaire, and more.

The Beesons have had extensive community involvement over the years. They started Greater Whiteland Community Day and have supported the Clark-Pleasant Education Foundation, local sports teams, and the Johnson County 4H Fair Livestock auction. Beeson then matched the amount. Leslie also serves on the Board of Zoning Appeals for the Town of Whiteland. Volunteer work for the Beesons has included Gleaners Food Pantry, Whiteland Elementary School PTO, Crisis Text Line, and the HVAC Advisory Board at Central Nine Career Center. Beeson also spearheaded a "shop local" program to help area small businesses survive the COVID-19 closures this past year. Customers were encouraged to buy gift cards from locally owned businesses impacted by the closures.

Beeson offers a 100% customer satisfaction guarantee and a high rate of approval for customer financing, as well as an extended warranty on every HVAC system. The friendly and knowledgeable service technicians are licensed and insured and receive continuing education to ensure their knowledge and skills are up to date. Beeson Mechanical Service is a member of the Better Business Bureau.

IN-23098101

## SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

A display of handcrafted candles at Middle Davids Artisan Candles & Gifts. Opposite page: Co-owner Tauria Catlin holds a candle in her shop.



As the name states, Middle Davids Artisan Candles & Gifts is more than just handcrafted candles. It showcases ceramics, pottery, jewelry, cards, paintings and other works from over 60 artists. But the name also represents the shared interest of a father and son, the culmination of a dream and a steadfast commitment to one's community.

Dan and Tauria Catlin, owners of Middle Davids, met while both attended the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. The couple loved the small-town charm of Annapolis and were similarly taken by the quaint community of Newport, Rhode Island at a later stop in their Navy careers. The same thought occurred to both of them.

"We always talked about how great

it would be to live in a small town, have a shop and know your customers," Dan said.

The couple opened their business in Franklin in 2009, first setting up shop in the Wigwam Building on E. Jefferson St., before relocating to their current location at 100 S. Jackson St. in 2017. But the origins of the candle business trace back to way before then.

Dan's father, Arthur Catlin, a United Methodist pastor, had very little money as a child and so he bought a second-hand candle-making kit as a way to make Christmas gifts for his mother and sisters. It turned into a

hobby he greatly enjoyed and he kept with it into adulthood.

Dan remembers many an afternoon as a child making candles with his father.

"I had a great time with it, and I carried that fondness with me throughout my life," Dan said.

Pastor Catlin made some candles for parishioners at his church, and later the idea arose of making a business out of it, Dan said. In 2002, at a time the elder Catlin was nearing retirement from the ministry, father and son started the business part-time,



**SMYTHE & Co.**  
REAL ESTATE

**Tanya Smythe**  
Broker/Owner

(317) 882-7229

[www.SmytheRealEstate.com](http://www.SmytheRealEstate.com)

Tanya resides at Lamb Lake with her husband Mark and is a proud mom of 3 children, 2 daughters-in-law, and 5 grandchildren. Tanya graduated from Indian Creek High School and Indiana University with a Bachelor's in Psychology. Tanya has over 30 years of experience working with prestigious builders in Florida and Central Indiana. Her passionate and extensive knowledge of real estate has enabled her to develop strong expertise in luxury homes, estate properties, new builds, and lakefront living.

Indianapolis Monthly magazine has named Tanya Smythe a Five Star Real Estate Agent Award Winner for the past ten years...2011-2021. This award is given only to the top 7% of all Real Estate Agents in the 9 County Central Indiana area. The award is based on surveys of recent clients on customer service, knowledge, professionalism, and overall experience with the agent. Tanya has been in the top 10 of all agents based on sales volume for the past 10 years in Johnson County.

Smythe & Co. Real Estate has 14 Agents, 2 Assistants and Offices in Franklin and Columbus.

Smythe & Co. is a boutique real estate company that is proud to be locally owned, providing personal and professional service while obtaining proven results!

Professional Memberships include: MIBOR, National Association of Realtors, Indiana Association of Realtors, IREIBA, and IU Alumni Association, 100 Women Who Care of Johnson County.

IN-35098168



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317-550-1450**

IN-35097624

# A BRIGHT LIGHT

Craft candles, supporting artists and helping others all part of Franklin business

STORY BY BOB BROMLEY | PHOTOS BY MARK FREELAND



focusing initially on craft shows and fundraisers for church youth groups.

Helping non-profit organizations with their fundraisers remains a significant part of the company's identity today, Tauria said. From September to December of 2021, the store helped 28 groups earn over \$70,000, she said. High school choirs, middle school Washington, D.C. trips, the Lion's Club, gymnastics centers, elementary schools and Boy Scout troops are a sampling of organizations the shop has worked with, with some of the relationships extending over several years. Franklin Community High School Choirs, for example, has earned approximately \$134,000 since 2010 through its fundraisers with Middle Davids, Tauria said.

Middle Davids has gradually grown the number of products it offers and now features over 60 artists creating items such as ornaments, quilts, ceramics, pottery, and paintings. Approximately 45% of the artists are from Indiana, with at least 10% of them from Franklin, Tauria said.

"All the art is made by people," said Tauria. "Nothing is machine-made." Likewise, the soy candles, with more than 40 scents to choose from, are handcrafted and made on site.

Like most businesses, Middle Davids took a significant financial hit due to COVID-19. The Catlins' focus, however, was on the wellbeing of the larger business community, not just their own business. Toward that end, they created a candle specifically for The Historic Artcraft Theatre, donating all of the proceeds generated by the candle for several weeks. There's No Place Like Home — a caramel corn scented candle — is still available at the store, with \$5 now being donated to the Artcraft for each candle sold. Middle Davids has also done specialty candles for the Wild Geese Bookshop, the Humane Society and the Johnson County Public Library.

"To come up with something

for us, when they were struggling themselves, was quite the gesture," said Rob Shilts, executive director of Franklin Heritage and The Historic Artcraft Theatre. The Artcraft was either closed or operating at reduced capacity for its films for several months in 2020, at times relying largely on popcorn and other concessions sold on the sidewalk outside the theater. Over the summer and fall of 2020, Middle Davids generated \$8,000 for the theater, a significant help, Shilts said.

"It's pretty amazing when you consider they are a small little candle shop," he said. "It's a great example of what merchants can do in a small town."

The Catlins, who married in 1989 shortly after their graduations from the Naval Academy, have seen a dramatic change in the small town they have come to love since opening their doors in 2009. At that time, a number of vacant storefronts dotted the downtown area.

"We have a very walkable downtown now," Tauria said. "We could run our business out of a warehouse, but we wanted to be a part of a vibrant downtown."

Shilts sees Middle Davids as being a contributor to that growth, bringing tourism to town and offering such nice touches such as providing tours for elementary school children where kids make their own candles.

"They've done a really nice job," he said. "They've been an exemplary merchant."

The Catlins are avid bicyclists, providing a further connection to the community. The couple is part of a group that meets on Thursday nights from April to October. Typically 20 to 30 people will join in on a ride, but they have had as many as 40, Tauria said. She logged 4,000 miles on the bike this past year, while Dan typically bikes over 7,000 miles a year. The Catlins have three daughters, all of whom have worked in the business while in high school or college.



Top: Tauria Catlin stands outside Middle Davids Artisan Candles & Gifts. Above: A display of craft items from local artisans.

# Survey: ‘Great Resignation’ is real

BY INDIANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

While a newly-released survey shows Hoosier workers are relatively confident in the security of their current jobs, nearly a quarter (24%) of those who felt secure still expect to search for new job opportunities in the next year. This underlines the reality of the “Great Resignation” period sweeping varied industries across the nation.

The takeaway is among the key findings from the first worker survey commissioned by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, its Institute for Workforce Excellence and Indiana Chamber Foundation. For the last 14 years, the Indiana Chamber has done an annual employer workforce survey – the most recent issued in late September. The emphasis of the worker survey was on employment, the economy and the future.

“Job security does not always equal contentment for individuals. Having purpose at work, flexibility and a competitive salary are all big factors, with the first two becoming increasingly important for workers since the pandemic began,” offers Indiana Chamber President and CEO Kevin Brinegar.

“People quitting a job – with or without another one lined up – is on the rise and according to the respondents who were unemployed, it’s now the most common reason why they are out of work.”

A total of 43% of the unemployed respondents said they had quit as opposed to 38% who were terminated or laid off. Only 15% of those laid off were due to a business closure. Among the unemployed, 70% were currently looking for work and 26% were not. Over half of the unemployed have been without a stable job with a living wage for more than six months.

The survey also illustrated the existing disconnect over the skills and education level needed to have a thriving career in the state. Nearly one third (32%) of Hoosier workers believed that a

high school diploma is all they need. Minority workers were more likely to consider a college degree necessary.

“It’s alarming that so many still believe a high school diploma will provide them the type of prosperity to sustain them throughout life,” Brinegar asserts. “Unfortunately, their perspective just doesn’t match up to the realities of the modern workforce.”

In March 2021, for example, 916,000 jobs were added to the U.S. economy. Of those, less than 1% or just 7,000 jobs were for people with only a high school diploma.

But the good news is that most in the survey did recognize the importance of more education or training – with 58% of Hoosier workers considering pursuing career development in the past year or two. The vast majority of those (74%) contemplating enhancing their skills already hold a post-high school diploma credential or industry certification.

Separately, over three-quarters (78%) of workers acknowledge their lack of education is a barrier to job opportunities and would be willing to get more training if their employer encouraged them to do so.

“For their best interests and that of their workers, more employers should begin to look at growing the workforce they need. Whether that’s via formal tuition reimbursement or training programs, or simply through encouragement or access to resources,” Brinegar says. “This will be one of the most effective ways to fill the existing talent shortage.”

Compensation was another survey focus. Somewhat surprisingly, more employed Hoosiers indicated that their incomes actually increased since the onset of COVID-19 than those who reported a decrease: 29% vs. 21%. The remainder said their incomes were not affected much at all. What’s more, nearly half (48%) of Hoosier workers believe their overall compensation is fair and

satisfactory for the work they do.

Of those not satisfied with what they are making, 56% said they intend to search for new job opportunities in the next year. And back to the Great Resignation trends, 30% of workers satisfied with their compensation still plan to look for new job opportunities.

Similar to employers in that survey, Hoosier workers were generally optimistic about their own financial situations over the next few years. A total of 54% of workers believed their household finances would improve during that time; only 18% feared it would worsen.

The 2021 Indiana Chamber employee survey was conducted during the third quarter and completed by 602 Hoosiers statewide who were employed, under-employed or unemployed. Their ages ranged from 18 to 60 and were not business owners or considered upper-level management. Full results are available at [www.indianachamber.com/survey](http://www.indianachamber.com/survey).

The Indiana Chamber’s Institute for Workforce Excellence is dedicated to helping businesses attract, develop and retain skilled employees by bringing together tools and resources to assist in building that talent pipeline. The Institute’s scope is being expanded to fill existing gaps in the workforce system for both employers and employees. A key piece is the Indiana Talent Resource Navigator, which will be launched in early 2022.

The Indiana Chamber Foundation commissions practical policy research, initiates actions and seeks solutions that positively impact Indiana’s economic future and enhance the quality of life for all Hoosiers. Most notably, it includes the Indiana Vision 2025 long-range economic development plan for the state, as well as its supporting biannual report cards on how the state is progressing. Earlier this year, the Foundation launched Accelerating Indiana: Vision 2025+.

# CORPORATE CHATTER

Companies making news on the southside

## New website promotes doing business in Franklin

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce has a new digital space to tell its story and to share ones about their members and the business community. The chamber has launched a new website that features:

- A design that includes dynamic images of the business community and the city's quality of life.
- Lots of content about the benefits of doing business in the area and living in Franklin.
- A first-ever Community and Chamber Calendar where visitors can find and sign up for events, download reminders to their personal calendars and filter views based on their preferences.
- An expanded and descriptive Business Directory where the community can find up-to-date information about local businesses and organizations.

"This new website takes our Chamber to the next level to serve our members and to assist with economic growth in Franklin," said Rosie Chambers, executive director. "We feel this is a great investment into our ability to highlight our local businesses and share important information."

The new website was developed by Clever Dogs Media, a Franklin and Indianapolis-based digital marketing company whose partners have been involved with the Franklin Chamber for more than 30 years. Sean Miller and Jeff Owen led a team of chamber staff and members through a process that focused on audience needs, messaging, technical specifications and design. They also partnered with another Chamber member, Maleta Schmidt of Crescent Creative, on the branding and presentation.

"This project will serve the Chamber and

the business community very well because the leadership invested the time and resources necessary to do it right. The content and messaging will resonate with businesses and organizations who are successful doing business and serving their clients here," said Owen.

See the new features at [www.franklincoc.org](http://www.franklincoc.org).

## Two local public safety agencies awarded grants

A worker's compensation insurance agency for municipal employees awarded two grants to local public safety agencies.

The Indiana Public Employers' Plan Inc. awarded a \$23,800 grant to the Edinburgh Police Department and a grant worth about \$1,900 to the Franklin Fire Department.

The grant will allow the police department to buy two drones and about eight bulletproof vests for reserve officers, said Doyne Little, Edinburgh police chief.

Franklin Fire will use its grant to replace existing gas detectors. The equipment is present on each fire truck, and is used to detect the presence of multiple types of noxious gases, said Matt Culp, Franklin fire chief.

The Kokomo-based worker's compensation insurance agency works with more than 700 public entities including cities, towns, counties and schools. Grants are available to those insured by the agency as a way to increase employee safety and bolster public safety budgets, according to a news release.

## Local radio station wins award

KORN Country 100.3 was recognized with the Indiana Broadcasters Association Spectrum Award. The award is in honor of the KORN Country special

"The Wall That Heals Franklin" that aired Memorial Day Weekend. Several Central Indiana Veterans shared stories of time in Vietnam and their experiences returning to the U.S.

The Wall That Heals Franklin radio special can be heard online at [korncountry.com](http://korncountry.com).

## Leadership Johnson County at Franklin College earns award

The Indiana Historical Society (IHS) has awarded the Leadership Johnson County at Franklin College (LJC) "Booker T. Washington Community Center Rededication Project" with a 2021 Founders Day Award in the category of Outstanding Collaborative Project. The category recognizes exceptional projects by a historical or heritage organization with one or more partners implemented during the past year, particularly for projects that share county or regional history.

## Franciscan Health Physicians Listed Among Magazine's 'Top Doctors'

225 Franciscan Health employed (Franciscan Physician Network) and affiliated physicians have been honored as 2021 "Top Doctors" by Indianapolis Monthly magazine (November issue).

Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., a healthcare research and information company, compiled this year's honorees by asking physicians to recommend someone in Central Indiana they would see themselves or suggest to a family member.

## Colorado orthodontics manufacturer plans move to Franklin

A Colorado-based orthodontics manufacturer, known as OrthoAmerica and Rocky Mountain Orthodontics, is moving its headquarters to Franklin and bringing with it 100 jobs.

The company plans to move into the building at 2165 Earlywood Drive, which houses G and H Orthodontics, a Franklin-based orthodontics manufacturer that is in the process of moving its headquarters to Linville Way.

## County unemployment rate drops below 1%

The county's unemployment rate broke another record in December, dipping to

# Franklin Chamber of Commerce names 2022 board



Board members and chamber staff are, from left, front row: Amy Richardson, Anya McConnell, Rosie Chambers, Kristen Loy, Traci Hill and Deb Turrel; second row: Sally Wells, Jeff Dutton, Lezlie Richards, David Pfeiffer, Eric Leugers, Mark Gavorski, David Clendening, Chelsea Cooley and Betsy Schmidt. Not pictured: Aleks Davis and Andy Moorman.

The Franklin Chamber's Board of Directors is an active group of member volunteers who represent the chamber and provide guidance and direction for the organization. Board members serve a two-year term and may be asked to serve a maximum of two additional consecutive terms for a total of six years.

## 2022 board members:

Dr. David Clendening, Franklin Community Schools  
Chelsea Cooley, Otterbein SeniorLife Franklin  
Aleks Davis, B2S Life Sciences  
Jeff Dutton, Johnson Memorial Health  
Mark Gavorski, Homeview Health and Rehabilitation  
Eric Leugers, Leugers Insurance Group  
Kristen Loy, Firestorm Restoration  
Andy Moorman, NSK Precision  
David Pfeiffer, Johnson County Museum of History  
Lezlie Richards, TeamLogic IT  
Amy Richardson, Main & Madison Market Café  
Betsy Schmidt, Franklin College  
Deb Turrel, Crane Credit Union  
Sally Wells, Mutual Savings Bank

## CORPORATE CHATTER

Companies making news on the southside

0.9%, the lowest it has been in at least the past 20 years.

It marks the sixth consecutive month the unemployment rate has gone down in Johnson County. The jobless rate was 3.5% in June, 3% in July, 2.9% in August, 2.1% in September, 1.9% in October and 1.5% in November. The October and November rates were also the lowest they had been in the past 20 years at the time.

December's rate was significantly better than the 3.3% jobless rate in December 2020, even as many businesses were almost fully recovered from coronavirus pandemic-related lockdown measures.

Of 92 Indiana counties, just seven had lower unemployment rates than Johnson County in December. The county's jobless rate is also lower than the state's rate of 1.3%.

Overall, more than 81,900 Johnson

County residents had jobs last month, while fewer than 800 members of the eligible workforce did not.

The data comes from a monthly report released by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, which tracks unemployment.

For the third consecutive month, LaGrange County, in northeast Indiana, had the lowest unemployment rate at 0.7%. Lake County, in northwest Indiana, had the highest at 2.5%.

## Franciscan Health Indianapolis Stroke Program Earns National Accolades

Franciscan Health Indianapolis has received the 2021 American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus with Honor Roll Elite. The award recognizes the hospital's commitment to ensuring stroke patients

receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on the latest scientific evidence.

## Council OKs tax break for Peterman Brothers expansion

The Greenwood City Council approved a \$220,000 tax break to help Peterman Brothers, a heating, cooling and plumbing company, expand its footprint and build a new trade school.

## Record number of businesses registered in 2021

Indiana Secretary of State Holli Sullivan announced a record-breaking number of new businesses were registered in Indiana in 2021, with nearly 100,000 new businesses registered.

"2021 was an incredible and record-breaking year for business growth in Indiana," she said. "The overwhelming majority of new businesses registered are based right here in Indiana, a sign of our state's strong economic environment."

The Secretary of State's Business Services Division is responsible for registering all business in the state of Indiana. Most users completed their registration through INBiz, Indiana's business registration portal. Overall, 94,670 businesses were registered in

# CORPORATE CHATTER

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2021; 86,416 filings were for businesses based in Indiana; 9,623 filings were businesses headquartered outside of the state.

In total, registrations increased 26.3% in 2021 from 74,937 in 2020.

Created in 2016, INBiz serves as a single online location for numerous transactions with state government. The site provides a streamlined, customer-centric experience that reduces confusion, stress and delays for Hoosier business owners.

Additional Registration data from previous years:

2017 - 54,693

2018 - 58,465

2019 - 62,391

2020 - 74,937

2021 - 94,670

## First Financial Bank completes acquisition of Summit Funding Group

First Financial Bancorp announced that it has completed its previously announced acquisition of Cincinnati-based Summit Funding Group Inc., the fourth largest independent equipment financing platform in the United States.

“We are excited about the opportunity to provide our clients with additional services through Summit’s extensive leasing capabilities, and we look forward to the growth potential that is created through this acquisition,” said First Financial President and Chief Executive Officer Archie Brown.

Throughout the U.S., Summit is known for its diversified and nimble platform, which allows it to finance a variety of equipment types across various financing structures. Currently, Summit manages a portfolio with aggregate original equipment cost of approximately

\$1 billion and outstanding balances of approximately \$500 million, across over 4,000 leases.

With the transaction complete, Summit now will operate as a subsidiary of First Financial Bank. Current Summit leadership and all associates will continue in their positions, led by founder and CEO Rick Ross. As a subsidiary, Summit retains the name Summit Funding Group, taking advantage of the company’s brand recognition within the equipment finance industry, particularly with small-to-medium sized businesses.

## Amazon to bring ‘hundreds’ of jobs to Franklin

Amazon will open a 510,000 square foot sorting center at Franklin’s Interstate 65 exit this year.

The internet retail giant is opening its fifth facility in Johnson County at the Sunbeam Development Corporation shell building on the northeast side of the interchange. This building is the first built in a series of industrial structures the company plans to build on nearly 550 acres at the interchange.

Several types of jobs related to Amazon’s customer fulfillment operations will be created at the facility, including receiving inventory, sorting and shipping customer orders, and supporting network logistics, according to the release.

## Developer donates land for fire station

Indianapolis-based Scannell Properties donated about 3.4 acres of land to the Greenwood Fire Department for a new station. The property is located at 1763 S. Graham Road, just east of the Interstate 65 and Worthsville Road interchange.

The station, Greenwood’s fifth, would address development in southeast

Greenwood. Hundreds of new homes and several warehouses have been built in the last decade in southeast Greenwood, as well as new Clark-Pleasant schools, such as the recently completed Ray Crowe Elementary.

“When we heard there was a potential future need for a new fire department, we knew we wanted to donate the land,” Shaun Cofer, Scannell’s development manager, said in a statement.

## Suitcases donated to Franciscan Health

The Perry Township Kiwanis Club has donated a dozen new and gently used suitcases to Franciscan Health.

The suitcases were collected over the past several months. Co-president and activity leader Scott Splichal delivered the suitcases to Sister Marlene Shapley, vice president of mission integration at the Indianapolis campus, and Peggy Eineman, food and nutrition service manager at the Mooresville campus.

“They needed suitcases for the Center for Women and Children for the Afghan women who are having children, as they have nothing to take their belongings home in. So it was a great fit,” Splichal explained.

## Edinburgh school board OKs referendum

Edinburgh schools plans to ask voters in its district to increase their property taxes to support raises for teachers and enhanced school safety.

The tax hike would raise the education contribution of property owners in Blue River Township about 40%, from about \$1.06 for every \$100 of assessed value to about \$1.45. German Township residents who live within the school district’s boundaries would also be subject to the hike. The increase would cost the owner of a \$96,800 home, which is the median home value in the district, an additional \$9.97 a month, while the owner of a \$200,000 home would pay an additional \$31.77 a month.

All figures are estimates from Baker Tilly U.S. LLP, a Chicago-based public accounting and consulting firm.

The Edinburgh school board unanimously approved placing the referendum question on the spring ballot. The primary election is May 3.

# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

People making news on the southside



LEEANN DOERFLEIN

■ The Daily Journal has promoted two staff members.

Editor James Vaughn promoted news reporter **Leeann Doerflein** to news editor and long-time reporter **Ryan Trares** to senior reporter and columnist.



RYAN TRARES

Doerflein joined the newspaper staff in March 2020, the same week the first COVID-19 cases were reported in the county. She has led

the paper's ongoing coverage of the coronavirus pandemic ever since. She also covers Franklin.

In her new role, she will keep a close eye on all of the county's local governments, including its several small towns and will also be responsible for the newspaper's social media channel.

Doerflein studied journalism and political science at the University of Indianapolis on the southside, and has a master's degree in strategic communication from Purdue University. She lives in Greenwood.

Trares joined the newspaper staff in 2008, and has told thousands of stories that run the gamut since then. He has won numerous awards for his reporting and writing and is the brain behind many feature sections, including Accent, Go! and Brave Hearts.

In his new role, he will continue to report on arts and entertainment,

local businesses and nonprofits, and health care, tackle special assignments and help coach rookie reporters. He will also write a weekly column about the joys and frustrations of modern fatherhood.

Trares studied journalism and creative writing at Miami University in Ohio.



MADELYN MAY

■ **Madelyn Jo May** has been appointed vice president and chief nursing officer for Franciscan Health Central Indiana.

She will oversee all nursing-related operations at Franciscan Health and lead a corps of nearly 1,600 nurses at hospital campuses in Indianapolis, Mooresville and Carmel.

May succeeds Trish Weber, who recently was appointed vice president and chief operating officer for the Mooresville and Carmel hospitals.



KERRY PRATHER

■ Franklin College President **Kerry Prather** was appointed to the Indy Chamber Board of Directors. The role of the board is to manage the full scope of the Indy Chamber's business

including the organizational budget. The legislative agenda and all council and committee recommendations are reviewed and voted on by the full board, according to a Franklin College news release.



JASON REISER

■ **Dr. Jason E. Reiser** has been appointed the director of Franciscan Health Family Medicine Residency program after serving as its interim chief.

■ Three Johnson County students have been selected as recipients of the 2022 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship. The Johnson County Community Foundation announced **Andrew**

**Jones** of Greenwood Community High School, **Jenna Kelsay** of Whiteland Community High School, and **Jenna Newton** of Franklin Community High School will receive the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship, which provides for full tuition, fees and a special allocation of up to \$900 per year for books and equipment for four years of undergraduate study on a full-time basis leading to a bachelor's degree at any eligible Indiana public or private nonprofit college or university.



KENT BEESON

■ The Clark-Pleasant school board has selected two new members to fill vacancies. **Kent Beeson**, owner of Whiteland-based Beeson Mechanical Service, will represent the Clark Township seat on the school board. **Kimberly Crawford**, an attorney and engineer at Rolls-Royce, will represent the Pleasant Township seat. Both have children at Clark-Pleasant schools.



KIMBERLY CRAWFORD



ARTHUR STERN

■ **Dr. Arthur Stern** has been awarded Franciscan Health's quarterly Healing Hands Award for his commitment to patients and professionalism. Stern has practiced

emergency medicine at Franciscan Health for 34 years and has been with the Emergency Physicians of Indianapolis (EPI) group since 1991. He was nominated by a patient and the patient's family for his quick response to the patient's aortic dissection.



AMANDA DAY

■ **Dr. Amanda Day** has joined Franciscan Physician Network Neuroscience Specialists.

Day will be practicing at 8051 S. Emerson Ave., Ste. 300 Indianapolis.

# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

People making news on the southside

■ **Barbara Chambers**, administrative assistant for the finance division at Franklin College, has been selected as the 2021 recipient of the Margaret Hommell Staff Service Excellence Award. She received the award at the 28th Annual Employee Appreciation and Holiday Celebration Luncheon in the Napolitan Student Center on Dec. 17.

■ Franklin College recognized the following employees for years of service:

5-year awards — Erin J. Ankney, Demetrius M. Bailey, Sherri A. Dunn, Ryan A. Rush, Kellie A. Schmidt, Denise M. Shorey, Arbin Thapaliya, Julie L. Thomas, James Vincent-Dunn, Jeffrey G. Williams

10-year awards — Meredith M. Clark-Wiltz, Allison S. Fetter-Harrott, Agueda F. Formosa-Mayan, Andrew A. Hendricks, Jessica M. Mahoney, Laura L. Morefield, Raymond M. Price, Steven M. Scheer, Thomas L. Stubbeman

15-year awards — Douglas Burker, David H. Cunningham

20-year awards — Sara Colburn-Alsop, Elizabeth A. Deckard, Richard J. Erable, Jill S. Radford, Marti Schrock

25-year awards — Svetlana Rakic, Kerry D. Smith

30-year awards — Alice A. Heikens, Thomas E. Patz

Receiving a standing ovation at the luncheon for her 50 years of service was Cheryl Stewart. Stewart is the first recipient of the Margaret Hommell Staff Service Excellence

Award in 1999.

Part-time employees honored for their years of service with the college include the following:

5-year awards — Clark G. Hadley, Chantel T. Poston, Janet E. Williams



SHERRY WEIR

■ **Sherry Weir** has been appointed manager of infection prevention for Franciscan Health Central Indiana. In that role, she oversees all programs and

protocols designed to protect the health of patients and staff at hospitals in Indianapolis, Mooresville and Carmel. She most recently served as an infection preventionist for Franciscan and is a National Healthcare Safety Network expert, monitoring and tracking real-time communicable disease data to share with clinicians, hospital leadership and public health agencies.



ALICIA GARVER

■ **Alicia Garver** has been appointed administrative director of quality improvement and regulatory compliance for Franciscan Health Central Indiana. She

will oversee efforts to standardize processes and structure to reduce variation, achieve predictable results and improve outcomes for patients and Franciscan hospitals. She is responsible for the organization's adherence to laws, regulations, guidelines and specifications relevant to its business processes.

■ Franklin College Director of Athletics and head swimming and diving coach **Andrew Hendricks** has been nominated as a finalist for the National Scholastic Collegiate Trophy, awarded by the College Swimming and Diving Coaches of America.

Hendricks is one of three finalists from around the country up for this year's award, which is awarded by both the CSCAA and the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association (NISCA). It is the

highest honor in intercollegiate swimming and diving.

■ The following new leaders and physicians have joined the team at Johnson Memorial Health:



ANNE-MARIE SCHENK

**Anne-Marie Schenk** has joined Johnson Memorial Health as Chief Nursing Officer. An Indianapolis native, Schenk has

extensive nursing and health care experience, most recently as CNO at Summerlin Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas. She also worked as a pediatric intensive care nurse at both Riley Hospital and Peyton Manning Children's Hospital in Indianapolis.



STEVE BERKHOUSE

**Steve Berkhouse** has joined Johnson Memorial Health as chief financial officer. He has over 30 years of hospital accounting and financial experience with community-

owned hospitals in three states. Berkhouse was most recently CFO of Ellsworth County Medical Center in Ellsworth, Kansas.



DAVID BLACK

**Dr. David J. Black** has joined the Johnson Memorial Health Physician Network. Black diagnoses and treats digestive disorders including stomach pain,

ulcers and Crohn's disease. He will be see patients in the Whiteland Primary Care Center on U.S. 31 and Whiteland Road.



DAVID KRISTO

**Dr. David A. Kristo** has joined the Johnson Memorial Health Physician Network. Kristo specializes in pulmonology and sleep medicine.



IN THE  
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## LEADING THE WAY AND PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST

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**Franciscan HEALTH**



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