

People in Business

Shiloh man named to United Way role

Tyrone Ford, a resident of Shiloh is the newly named systems change director for United Way of Greater St. Louis.



Ford

Ford will be responsible for developing relationships with agencies, community leaders and businesses across sectors that work within systems change efforts.

Additionally, he will help oversee efforts of the Greater St. Louis Community Information Exchange, including working with the Steering Committee, external stakeholders, funding community and network providers involved.

Ford has served as a leader in social services for more than 15 years. Prior to joining United Way, he was the director of service integration with Catholic Charities of St. Louis and previously held roles at Saint Louis University and St. Louis Children's hospital.

SWIC dean joins staff at research center

Former Southwestern Illinois College Dean of Math and Sciences Paige Mettler-Cherry has joined the National Great



Mettler-Cherry

Rivers Research and Education Center, a division of Lewis and Clark Community College, as the new director of Operations and Strategic Initiatives.

As part of NGRREC's leadership team, Mettler-Cherry will be responsible for overseeing the strategic direction for the education and conservation departments, along with supporting research operations.

Mettler-Cherry started her career as an undergraduate research assistant at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, working with Professor of Plant Biology Marian Smith.

Mettler-Cherry is considered an expert on the threatened plant species, Decurrent False Aster (*Boltonia decurrens*), which is an endemic species to the Illinois River floodplain. Throughout her career, she has worked with various federal agencies including the U.S Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service.

She also received the President's Scholar Teacher Award during her time at Lindenwood University, where she was a professor of biology.

SSM doctors joining OSF HealthCare

Patients of OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony's Health Center in Alton will soon have access to a comprehensive network



Nauman

of pediatric providers through a recently announced strategic affiliation with SSM Health, a Catholic health care system based in the St. Louis area.

The latest collaboration will see Aameera Nauman, MD, a pediatrician at OSF Saint Anthony's, move into the SSM Health network while continuing to see patients at the OSF Medical Group office

in Godfrey. The Godfrey office offers primary care for adults as well as pediatric care. Nauman will have access to SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, a world-class facility in St. Louis, for emergency and specialty care, such as advanced pediatric diagnostic testing, surgical services and sports care.

Jerry Rumph, president of OSF Saint Anthony's, said Nauman will be supported by pediatric specialists in areas including cardiology, oncology, neurology and gastroenterology. The team will have access to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and a Level I Pediatric Trauma Center at Cardinal Glennon Hospital, where providers are equipped to handle complex cases.

West Star Aviation announces new CFO

East Alton-based West Star Aviation announced Matthew DeLellis as its new chief financial officer. He will oversee all



DeLellis

aspects of the company's finance functions, including accounting, financial planning and analysis and tax, as well as preside over the purchasing, material control, legal, risk and compliance areas.

DeLellis has more than 20 years of finance and operational experience, including more than 12 years in the aviation sector. He earned a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Dartmouth College and holds a master's degree in Business Administration from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth.

Johnson retiring from development role

After nearly four decades in economic development, Steve Johnson, chief business attraction officer for Greater St.



Johnson

Louis Inc. and president of its business attraction initiative AllianceSTL, has formally announced that he will retire in September. "I hope we have shown that St. Louis can compete with anyone in the country when it comes to attracting world-class companies to locate here," said Johnson, who helped launch AllianceSTL, which was merged into Greater St. Louis, Inc. Jan. 1, 2021. "It's been an honor to do my part to help move the St. Louis metro forward, and I'm indebted to the great team of professionals who have surrounded me, along with our community partners throughout the entire region.

A native of Jefferson City, Mo., Johnson began his career in economic development at the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce. He later served as president and CEO of the Missouri Partnership before being selected to lead AllianceSTL in 2019.

During his career, Johnson and his team helped lead efforts that resulted in some of the region's biggest business attraction. Major projects on which Johnson worked included: Accenture Federal Services; Wachovia's acquisition of AG Edwards and designation

of St. Louis as headquarters; the NAS-CAR Cup Series race at World Wide Technology Raceway in Madison, Illinois; and American Foods Group.

A national search led by David P. Smith, founder and CEO of executive search firm HRS Inc., is underway for a new chief business attraction officer for Greater St. Louis, Inc.

Salger named to SIU Board of Trustees

Gov. Pritzker has appointed attorney Sara Salger to serve as a member of the Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees, pending Senate confirmation.



Salger

Salger is a managing partner at The Gori Law Firm in Edwardsville, where she has practiced since 2008, serving as an associate and partner. She is a member and second vice president of the Illinois Trial Lawyer's Association and a member of the American Association for Justice, American Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, and Missouri State Bar Association.

She has received a Super Lawyers Rising Star Award every year since 2015, named to Top 40 Under 40 by the National Trial Lawyers, was the recipient of the Illinois Trial Lawyers 2019 President's Award, and named the 2022 Partners for Pets Rescuer of the Year. Salger received Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and her Juris Doctorate from Saint Louis University.

VP over student affairs announced at SIUE

SIUE Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Jeffrey Waple, PhD, has named Rony Die as associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs/Dean of Students. Die will assume the role on Monday, July 18.



Die

Die brings more than 13 years of professional experience in higher education to SIUE. Since 2016, he has been serving as assistant dean of students and associate director for the Office for Student Conflict Resolution at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In that role, he provided leadership and supervision in the student disciplinary process, Title IX investigations, and alternative conflict resolution services.

Die began his career in higher education at Texas Christian University in 2009 as a residence life hall director. In 2011, he joined Louisiana State University as a residence life coordinator. In 2013, he served as a student conduct coordinator at the University of Missouri and then went on to Florida International University in 2015 as an assistant director for student conduct and conflict resolution.

He earned a bachelor's in family, youth and community sciences from the University of Florida in 2006 and completed a master's in higher education from the University of Miami in 2009. Die is slated to complete a doctorate in educational administration and foundations from Illinois State University in May 2023.

IMPACT Strategies promotes Michael

Fairview Heights-based IMPACT Strategies marked the promotion of Mike Michael from senior project manager to project director.



Michael

Michael joined IMPACT Strategies in 2005 as project manager. In his 17 years with IMPACT, he has served the firm in various roles, most recently as senior project manager. He managed multiple complex projects throughout Missouri and Illinois, including most recently The Rehabilitation Institute of Southern Illinois and the Siteman Cancer Center in Shiloh.

Michael holds a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign and is a LEED Accredited Professional through the U.S. Green Building Council. He is also a Certified Healthcare Constructor through the American Hospital Association.

New CEO recognized at missioning ceremony

Chris Klay, new president and chief executive officer, was recognized at a special Missioning and Blessing Ceremony this past month at HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital in O'Fallon, Ill.



Klay

New senior leaders within HSHS are missioned and anointed in the healing ministry of the Hospital Sisters, as evidenced through the order's core values of respect, care, competence and joy. HSHS President and CEO Damond Boatwright, HSHS Illinois Division President and CEO Joe Mullany, several Hospital Sisters, and many others celebrated with Klay.

Railway company names new CEO

Mount Vernon-based National Railway Equipment Co., an employee-owned provider of rail, marine, and power industry services, has appointed Merritt Becker chief executive officer. An executive and strategic business developer, Becker joins NRE from global engine and power generation company, Cummins Inc. He joined the company effective June 1, succeeding Steven Beal, who passed away in 2020. Since then, NRE has been led by its Board of Directors.

In taking the helm at NRE, Becker will be charged with serving OEM and aftermarket customers in the rail and inland waterway sectors, and creatively addressing the challenges the company's customers face as the industry moves toward new technologies. NRE aims to assist them in the implementation of converging technologies in new and existing fleets to practically meet their objectives.

Send People in Business items to Editor Dennis Grubaugh, dgrubaugh@ibjonline.com.