

People in Business

Holland Construction Services adds three to growing team

Holland Construction Services has announced the addition of three new employees to its growing team. The new employees include Kent Richardson as Senior Virtual Design and Construction Engineer, Ashleigh Loehring as Project Administrator and Garrison West as Project Manager.



Richardson



Loehring



West

To accommodate the growth, Holland is currently working to complete construction on its new St. Louis office which will open later this summer. The company currently has 17 active projects in the St. Louis Metro Area ranging from \$1 million to over \$70 million, with 10 of those projects valued at more than \$20 million.

Johnson and Erker lead United Way campaign

United Way of Greater St. Louis has announced that P.K. Johnson, V of Johnson, Johnson and Nolan, Attorneys at Law; and Melissa Erker of WRB Refining will serve as the local Illinois region chairs of the 2022 community campaign.



Johnson



Erker

This year, United Way of Greater St. Louis is celebrating 100 years of impact in the St. Louis region. In addition to seven counties in Missouri, United Way of Greater St. Louis serves the Illinois counties of Calhoun, Clinton, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, Randolph and St. Clair.

P.K. Johnson, V is the managing partner of Johnson, Johnson & Nolan Attorneys in Belleville. He is a fifth-generation attorney and has been with Johnson, Johnson & Nolan for 25 years. Previously, he taught research and writing in the paralegal program at Southwestern Illinois College. Additionally, Johnson has volunteered in leadership roles with the St. Clair County Bar Association, Pujols Family Foundation Advisory Board, Wolf Branch District 113 School Board, and Downtown Belleville Optimist Club.

Melissa Erker is the director of government and community relations for the WRB Refining LP, Wood River Refin-

ery. Erker began her career as a journalist for the Edwardsville Intelligencer and later worked for the public relations firm Grandone Hauser. She joined the team at the then Shell Wood River Refinery in 1997, today operated by Phillips 66 in a joint venture with Cenovus Energy.

Erker is a member of the RiverBend Growth Association Board of Directors and a former chairman of the board. She is a board member of the Alton Memorial Board and member of the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois. She has served on various other boards in the RiverBend communities, including in various roles with United Way's Southwest Illinois Division. She leads a Community Advisory Panel for the Wood River Refinery. Erker was named a YWCA Woman of Distinction in 2006.

IMPACT Strategies adds three to project team

IMPACT Strategies has added three new staff members: Clayton Rehkemper as project manager, and Lucas Theising and Zackary Barnes as project engineers.



Rehkemper



Theising



Barnes

Project Manager Clayton Rehkemper joined the IMPACT Strategies team in May. He holds a bachelor's degree in Construction Management from Western Illinois University. Rehkemper has six years of experience in the construction industry, having previously served in roles including project engineer, assistant project manager, and project manager. He and his fiancé live in Trenton.

Originally from Germantown, Ill., Project Engineer Lucas Theising recently graduated from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale with a degree in Technical Resource Management/Construction Management after earning an associate degree from Kaskaskia College. Theising completed an internship with IMPACT Strategies in 2021.

Zackary Barnes is another former IMPACT Strategies intern who is returning to the firm as a Project Engineer. He holds a degree in Construction Project Management from Kaskaskia College. Barnes, who lives in Carlyle, interned with IMPACT in 2021.

HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital names Operations ED

Nalin Kulasekara, MBA, has been named executive director of operations at HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital in O'Fallon, effective Aug. 1. Kulasekara has extensive experience in operations, financial management and supply chain management in small and multi-location organizations.

Prior to joining HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital, he was the chief financial officer at Epworth Children & Family Services in



Kulasekara

Webster Groves, Mo. He also previously served in several roles at SSM Health Systems in St. Louis, starting as corporate director of Strategic Sourcing, then regional vice president of Supply Chain and Support Services, and vice president of Supply Chain Operations. He is currently an adjunct lecturer at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville School of Business.

Kulasekara received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Master Certification in Gerontology and Master of Business Administration from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. He and his wife Susan have two children, Michaela and Ryan, and reside in Edwardsville.

Fries awarded Education Professional of the Year

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Engineering's Ryan Fries, Ph.D., professor and chair of civil engineering, has received the Patrick T. McCoy Education Professional of the Year award.



Fries

The award, presented by the Missouri Valley District Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), recognizes an educator who has made an outstanding contribution to the study of transportation and helps students advance in their education and as professionals.

Fries joined SIUE in 2008, teaching and researching topics in transportation engineering. His research interests include traffic operations, traffic signals, and intelligent transportation systems. He regularly works on research for the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and has recently started a new project for IDOT.

Perimar continues as lead of regional Carpenters Council

Gary Perimar, Executive Secretary-Treasurer (EST) of the Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council, was unanimously re-elected to another four-year leadership term in August by the union's delegate body. As EST, Perimar oversees operations of a union that represents 52,000 carpenters in 324 counties across Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Eastern Iowa.



Perimar

Perimar is a third-generation business representative of the union and a 44-year member of Carpenters Local 174 in Joliet. In addition to his leadership role in the Carpenters Union, Perimar is an active civic leader and sits on the boards of both the Illinois Toll Highway Authority and the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Under Perimar's leadership, the Regional Council negotiated a first-of-its-kind 5-year contract with employers, passed historic pension improvements, and extended health insurance eligibility for

members who lost work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Perimar was also at the helm during the 2021 merger of the former Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters and St. Louis-Kansas City Carpenters Regional Council to form the Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council. Perimar was elected EST of the then-Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters in 2018.

Cedric Brown selected as L&C Director of Athletics

Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey named Dr. Cedric Brown as the Trailblazers' next director of athletics.



Brown

Brown becomes L&C's first full-time director of athletics. Previously, the post was split with head coaching duties. With this announcement, L&C President Ken Trzaska noted the college's recommitment to its athletic program.

Brown is no stranger to Trailblazer Nation, having served as an assistant coach for men's basketball from 2015 to 2018 under Illinois Hall of Famer and former L&C Athletic Director Deon Thomas. He returns to Godfrey with a rich resume of experience in coaching at the collegiate level and athletics administration.

While at L&C, he also served as director of athletics for the Ferguson-Florissant School District and is credited with developing their middle school athletic programming from the ground floor. Since 2020, he served as director of athletics at Winchester Thurston School in Pittsburgh. Last year, he received a doctorate in organizational development and leadership with an emphasis on sport, fitness and wellness management from the University of Arizona Global Campus.

Derrick Brown named SIUE Interim AD

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Chancellor James T. Minor, Ph.D., has announced the appointment of Derrick



Brown

Brown as Interim Director of Athletics following the departure of Tim Hall. Brown assumed the senior leadership position, effective Sunday, Aug. 14.

Brown is the second-longest tenured head coach at SIUE, now entering his 14th season guiding the SIUE Cougars men's golf team. Brown will continue to serve as SIUE's men's golf head coach.

With a background in coaching and administration, Brown has served as the men's golf head coach since the 2009-2010 season and spent three seasons (2013-2016) overseeing both the men's and women's programs at SIUE.

The Vermillion, S.D. native was a three-year letter winner for the University of South Dakota golf team. Brown earned a bachelor's in recreation from South Dakota in 2005 and a master's in athletic administration in 2006. He is married to Jocelyn Brown, Ph.D., professor of applied communication studies at SIUE.

Send People in Business items to Editor Melissa Crockett Meske, macmeske@ibjonline.com.