

People in Business

Calderon joins Moran ED team as senior planner

Moran Economic Development has announced the addition of Emily Calderon, AICP, to its team as senior planner.



Calderon

Calderon is certified with the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and specializes in leading complex development projects and creating partnerships that serve the greater community.

With over 15 years of experience in the public sector, Calderon brings to the table a diverse skill set in comprehensive planning, community engagement, economic development, public policy and zoning.

In her previous role, she served as City Planner where she led both long-range and current planning with a pragmatic approach. In 2014, Calderon received The Illinois American Planning Association's Emerging Planner Award for her work on Imagine Belleville, a comprehensive plan in which she built consensus among disparate ideas.

Calderon currently serves as a lecturer on geography and urban planning at her alma mater Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE).

To learn more about Moran Economic Development, visit <https://www.morandevdevelopment.com/>.

Bank of Monroe County expands executive, commercial lending teams

Bank of Monroe County in Waterloo, Ill., a division of Bank of Belleville, has announced the hiring of its newest management team member, Diane Sinn, as Vice President. Sinn comes to Bank of Monroe County with 26 years of banking experience including roles as branch manager and business development officer with a strong focus on business banking.



Sinn



Malone

Sinn is proud to live and work in the metro-east where she serves on a daycare board, as a Girl Scout troop leader, and also as the Service Unit Treasurer for the Girl Scouts. She is a Delta Theta Phi chapter member who does philanthropic work locally.

Bank of Monroe County also added a new member to its commercial lending team. Greg Malone will be joining their commercial lending team as a Vice President of Commercial Banking. Malone comes to the bank with more than 30 years of banking experience, including roles in automotive and commercial lending while supporting a variety of local businesses.

Malone lives in Columbia, Ill., with his wife Betty of 36 years. He has been a board member for the Monroe County Economic Development Corporation and worked with Songs for Soldiers as well as a volun-

teer at St Louis Children's Hospital.

Bank of Monroe County continues to expand by offering full-service banking for both consumer and commercial clients, including loans and deposits. Commercial clients will enjoy access to checking and money market accounts, online banking, remote deposits, merchant services, and custom-tailored lending solutions including access to an SBA Preferred Lender.

OSF HealthCare adds Brown as primary care provider

OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony's Health Center has added a new primary care provider to its staff to better serve the community of Alton and surrounding areas.



Brown

Deena Brown, APRN, joins the care team of Dr. Shawn Fry at OSF Medical Group, 205, Alton, for patients in need of primary care. Brown offers a number of services but is particularly passionate about women's health.

She received a Bachelor of Science from McKendree University and Master of Science degree from Chamberlain College of Nursing. She is a board-certified family nurse practitioner.

Patient appointments for primary care with Brown can be made by calling (618) 462-2222.

Edwardsville Realtor Riggs earns national, local honors

RE/MAX Alliance Realtor Tara Riggs has recently received recognition at both the national and local levels.



Riggs

Riggs was named to the 2022 RealTrends 'America's Best Real Estate Professionals' list and RE/MAX Torchbearer Top 40 Agents Under 40 for the second consecutive year.

The 'America's Best Real Estate Professionals' nationwide ranking is based on performance in 2021. According to RealTrends, agents named to the list represent the top 1.49 percent of the more than 1.6 million licensed real estate professionals in the United States.

The Torchbearer award honors the Top 40 agents under 40 years old in the Midwest region of RE/MAX by transactions in 2021. The Midwest region covers top-producing agents from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Texas.

She also recently won 'Best of Edwardsville' in the Real Estate Agent category, hosted by Big Z Media. The annual contest calculates votes submitted from the community to determine the winner of each category.

Riggs, an Edwardsville/Glen Carbon resident, has been a real estate broker in the metro-east area for more than 16 years and has sold more than \$93 million of real estate in the St. Louis metro east. She provides real estate services to Edwardsville, Glen Carbon and the surrounding District 7 communities; specializing in residential buying, selling, building and investing.

For more information, Riggs can be reached at (618) 580-7470, triggsrealestate@gmail.com.

Cork Tree Creative receives national, state certifications

Cork Tree Creative, Inc., a full-service marketing and public relations firm, today announced it has been certified by the



Carpenter



Reed

National Veteran-Owned Business Association as a Certified Veteran's Business Enterprise (VBE) and the State of Illinois Veterans Business Program as a Veteran-owned Small Business (VOSB).

In addition to recognizing the military service of company ownership, these certifications connect Cork Tree Creative to a vast network of corporations and organizations who look to support veteran-owned businesses when looking to outsource their marketing services.

In addition to its veteran-owned status, Cork Tree Creative is also certified as a Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB) by the Small Business Administration, and a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (WBE) by the State of Illinois.

Cork Tree Creative, Inc. was formed in 2009 by Jan Carpenter and Laura Reed as an all-inclusive marketing firm offering a full suite of traditional and digital marketing services. Located in Edwardsville, Ill., the company has clients ranging from big brands in energy and engineering to state-wide utility providers and leaders in healthcare and legal services.

For more information about Cork Tree Creative, Inc., visit www.corktreecreative.com or call (618) 656-7333. For information about the firm's certifications, visit www.corktreecreative.com/certifications.

SIUE's Tolava earns national concrete scholarship

Cristian Rodrigo Tolava Torrico, a second-year graduate student in the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School



Tolava

of Engineering (SOE) Department of Civil Engineering, was recently awarded the American Concrete Institute (ACI) Foundation Scholarship's W. Gene Corley Memorial Scholarship. Named after a recognized industry leader, the scholarship is awarded to graduate students with an interest in forensic engineering and the behavior and design of concrete structures.

Tolava's current research involves investigating the use of multiple dosages of a high-performance concrete mix strengthened with carbon and steel fibers in different gradations of lengths and quantities. Owing to his hard work and avid interest in research, Tolava has previously won several scholarships. Among them is the recognition of excellence in academics and exemplary character by the ACI Missouri Chapter Scholarship named Dr. David N. Richardson 2022-2023 meant to

promote careers in structural concrete and materials design, research, and practice.

Tolava was also honored by the Concrete Council of St. Louis and the ACI Missouri Chapter during its 2022 annual award presentation given to only one student from the St. Louis area, who is deemed most deserving and best able to utilize knowledge of concrete construction in their career.

While describing the uniqueness of Tolava's research strength, John Cabbage Ph.D., associate professor in the SOE's Department of Construction and one of Tolava's mentors, noted that Tolava's home country of Bolivia faces a costly steel import process to build more earthquake-resistant structures. Tolava is working to reduce the amount of steel used and create a way to absorb more energy during an earthquake.

Ruscitti announced as West Star program manager

West Star Aviation recently announced Vince Ruscitti as their new Program Manager for Government Affairs. He will



Ruscitti

be responsible for building and leading the Government Projects Aircraft Maintenance Program at the Cahokia, Ill. hangar and will serve as the primary point of contact to manage all aspects of aircraft maintenance, repair and delivery.

Vince has over 38 years of experience in the aviation industry with his B.S. degree in Business Administration from Alameda College, an A.A. degree in Aviation Technology from the University of Phoenix and a Master Certificate in Organizational Leadership and Business Analysis as well as a Six Sigma Green Belt from Villanova University. Vince also has active U.S. Government Secret Clearance.

CMT adds Travis Wood as senior program manager

Citizens for Modern Transit recently announced the addition of Travis Wood as its new Senior Program Manager. In this



Wood

role, Wood will be responsible for enhancing community engagement, cultivating membership and programming opportunities, and working with the executive board to further the vision and goals of CMT.

Wood joins the team with experience in the non-profit sector, most recently serving as a policy and program manager for the Missouri Energy Initiative. In this capacity, he worked with local government representatives to help promote energy-efficient project financing, while interacting with representatives from academic institutions and the business sector.

Wood received a Master of Public Policy and Administration from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and a Master of Science in Environmental Science from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

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