



JOURNALS

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EFFINGHAM COUNTY



CREATING ENTREPRENEURIAL OPPORTUNITIES

2017 Annual Report

Letter from CEO Chairman

Dear CEO Investors,

It is my humble honor as your local CEO Board Chairman to present you with this annual report of Effingham County CEO program. We are close to wrapping up the ninth year of this program and in my opinion our program continues to get stronger and stronger.

The 2016-2017 year was our 2nd year in offering two classes and as we look into the future we expect to continue at this level for the foreseeable future. However, as a board we will not become complacent in our leadership should we determine changes are needed. A total of 41 students participated in our program this past year and we anticipate similar numbers next year.

One change you will see next year is a new Facilitator. Kent Probst has decided to retire from his role as Facilitator to pursue other interests. Kent has been a tremendous asset to our program and we wish him all the best going forward. We are excited to introduce Lisa Teichmiller as our new CEO Facilitator to replace Mr. Probst. Lisa has served as our CEO Network Developer the past three years, so she is obviously very familiar with CEO and with Kristy Sayers our program will be in great hands.

A specific area of the CEO program I would like to highlight this year is our Mentoring program. This aspect of CEO is progressing to be extremely impactful in the growth and development of our students. We continue to see tremendous interest from our business community to serve as a mentor for the program, which is a true testament to the far reaching impact CEO is making on our community.

Another change we saw from this year's class was a new venue for the annual CEO Experience. And while the venue was a notable change I would like to also mention the significance of five local businesses who participated in the day, businesses who happen to exist today in our community thanks in large part to CEO. Your investment is making a difference and growing new future business leaders.

At last year's Investor Breakfast I likened our CEO program to that of the magical experience of Walt Disney World®. The more I'm around and involved in this program the more convinced I am this is so very true. You, as an investor of this program, are changing education in a very profound way. I encourage all of our investors to take time to visit a class to feel and experience the magic of CEO.

In closing, I want to express our gratitude to each of you on behalf of our entire Effingham County Advisory Board. Thank you for helping us create educational magic.

Respectfully,
Steven A. Witges
Effingham County CEO Advisory Board Chairman



CEO IS SUCCESSFUL WITH INVOLVEMENT AND COMMITMENT FROM BUSINESS COMMUNITY

It is hard to believe that Effingham CEO is ending our ninth year! Effingham County CEO continues to be the leader of Entrepreneurship Education, and thanks to our educational and business leaders, members of Effingham County CEO continue to have a tremendous learning experience.



Kristy Sayers, Facilitator; Lisa Teichmiller, Network Developer; and Kent Probt, Facilitator.

Effingham County CEO has experienced success because of the involvement and commitment of our business community. When adults of the business community are actively engaged as investors, presenters, mentors, ambassadors, and hosts, a personal attachment with the students and their success takes place. With this seed of engagement planted, a powerful partnership will develop and pay off for decades to come. The Effingham CEO Class of 2017, had 14 host sites, 59 business visits, and 100+ community leaders speak on a variety of entrepreneurial and business topics.

The Effingham County CEO Class is one of the best investments we can make in the economic future of our area. The success of the program is due to the dedication and efforts of our students, advisory board, business partners, mentors, and school districts. They have come together to be a remarkable example of 21st-century learning.

On behalf of the 41 members of Effingham County CEO, we thank you for your investment!





2017 CEO Experience

The 2017 CEO Experience was a huge success with over 700 tickets sold. The event encompassed the theme "Growing Yourself, Your Business, and Your Community." The location change was positive, providing a professional backdrop and spacious seating options. Keynote speakers included best selling author Lewis Howes, and Chris Koch, a limbless farmer from Canada. Speakers included Jack Schultz and Cheryl Mitchell, with a stunning opening from Jamie Stang Ellis. The day also featured two new aspects: The Taste of Effingham County, and the Alumni Trade Show, which were well accepted by the crowd.



Lewis Howes is a New York Times Best Selling author of the book *The School of Greatness*. His passion and enthusiasm, inspired the attendees to grow their business.



Altamont HS drumline pumped up the crowd in preparation for Lewis' high energy presentation.



Jamie Stang Ellis set the tone for the event with her painting performance, which inspired attendees to "Be Fearless." The painting was later auctioned off with the proceeds benefiting "Fear Nothing."



Chris Koch, who was born without limbs, shared his inspiring message, "If I Can." His positive, humorous attitude radiated through in his presentation.

Jack Schultz and Cheryl Mitchell enlightened the audience on the growth of Effingham County. There was even a special appearance from Craig Lindvahl.





The CEO students introduced a new concept this year called "The Taste of Effingham County", which featured five local restaurants including: Firefly Grill, Joe's Pizza and Pasta, Old Mac's Drive Thru, Holli's Flour Shop, and Open Door Diner. Guests were able to enjoy appetizers from all over the county immediately following the final speaker of the event.



The CEO Experience also offered an alumni trade show to show the success of past CEO students. The five booths included Country Carved, SUBTL Leathers, Mette's Distinctive Lighting, Sutterfield Media, and Aherin Seed.

EVENT Sponsors



The CEO Experience would not have been possible without the help of...

HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital
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 Taylor Law Offices
 Arrow Pest Control
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Thank You!



MADELINE AHERIN

Madeline Aherin is the owner of **Grace Notes**. Grace Notes will provide students and young professionals with feminine, everyday office and school products including notebooks, notepads, pencils, and travel mugs that display reminders of God's Grace through bible verses and hymn lyrics. Encouraging messages will be with customer's throughout their day! Follow Grace Notes on Facebook and Instagram @GraceNotesEffingham. To learn more about Grace Notes, contact Madeline at madelineaherin17@gmail.com. Madeline will attend Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan.



SOPHIA BALLARD

Sophia Ballard is the owner of **Cost at Hand**. Cost at Hand is an app developed to help consumers' shopping experience. While using the app, customers put in the prices of their grocery items. When the person is done shopping, the amount, including sales tax, calculated by the app will let them know their total before they check out. Cost at Hand can benefit any consumer, especially the busy parent or a person who has a disability that would like more independence. For more information, contact Sophia at costathand@gmail.com. After graduating in May, Sophia plans on attending Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville. She is majoring in applied communication studies, with a minor in political science, plans to continue with law school.



JACOB BECKMAN

My Guy is a partnership with operations based in Teutopolis, Illinois. It was founded by Jacob Beckman and Carson Hartke. At this point in time, My Guy offers a variety of personal assistant services based on your personal needs. My Guy focuses on a large variety of customers. Varying from people who have work that they do not want to do or simply do not have the time to complete. If you are running low on time and need help you can contact My Guy at jacobbeckman17@gmail.com or chartke6@gmail.com. After graduating from Teutopolis High School, both Jacob and Carson plan on furthering their education at Lake Land College.



SIDNEY BRUMLEVE

Sidney Brumleve is the founder of **Simply Be Boutique**, an online boutique filled with specialized ladies' clothing. Each customer of Simply Be Boutique will feel as if the outfit is made for her! Each set of clothing is named after a different characteristic of Simply Be Boutique's customers. Contact Sidney at simply.be16@gmail.com for more information or place an order on www.thesimplybeboutique.com. Sidney plans to attend Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville, anticipating a major in business administration.



BRAYDAN BUSHUE

Everlasting Legacy, owned and founded by Braydan Bushue, is a company that is all about preserving the legacy of an individual. Everlasting Legacy is a new company that is opening up a new market in preserving people's legacy. Our service will include products such as: a nameplate and voice overs for the legacy. We offer assistance in helping people tell their loved one's legacy. We will help to consult our clients and lead them in the right direction to make the best possible decision for their loved one. If you would like more information about Everlasting Legacy you can contact Braydan at braydan@everlastinglegacy.life. Check out Everlasting Legacy website www.everlastinglegacy.life - Let Us Tell The Story.



JACOB BUSHUE

Jacob Bushue is the owner and operator of **QuestIcon**. QuestIcon's mission is to fundraise, advertise, and shed light on organizations and businesses that are providing support for underprivileged people in the community and progressing society in new ways. QuestIcon is a company whose purpose is to give back to the community. The first line of products are water bottles with subtle logos benefiting the Effingham Crisis Nursery. For more information or to place an order, email QuestIcon at questicon17@gmail.com. Jacob Bushue's future plans are to attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Business to major in accounting.



SAMUEL CHILDERSON

After searching for a hair conditioner to fit his needs, Sam was unable to find one that did the job he desired. Out of this frustration Sam has created **Adonis Hair Products**, a company focused on providing men with masculine smelling shampoo and conditioner. In a world full of boring 2-in-1 hair products, Adonis asks you to step back and prioritize your hair. Whether you are trying to take better care of your hair or just simply want your hair to smell great, Adonis will leave you appreciating your mane. You can contact Sam via email at samuelchilderson@gmail.com. Sam plans to study business at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville.



JACOB CROW

Jacob Crow has decided to use his interest in drones to create **Eagle Optics Aerial Photography**. Eagle Optics is a photography company that utilizes a drone to capture images from a new perspective. Using the latest drone technology, Jacob is able to take high quality photos and video of almost anything you can think of. Whether it is a picture of your home or business, survey of hunting or farm ground, or an event to remember, Eagle Optics will meet your needs for a reasonable price. Contact eagleoptics01@gmail.com, or like Eagle Optics on Facebook to get the bird's eye view. Next year, Jacob plans to study aerospace engineering at a four year university.



ALEX DENOYER

Alex Denoyer is the founder of **Thread Aesthetics**, a custom and premade embroidery patch business. These creative and colorful patches allow people to express opinions, passions, and experiences on clothing and backpacks. Whether, premade or custom, these easy to use, iron on patches will bring back memories and make others smile. Alex plans to continue her patch business throughout college and become a productive member of society, giving back to her community.



CHRISTIAN DETERS

Have you ever cracked a screen on your iPhone, iPad, or iPod? Luckily for you, Christian Deters is here to restore your device "**Back 2 New**". From a cracked screen to a faulty battery, Back 2 New offers a wide variety of repair work. This company strives to provide quality iDevice repairs at a competitive price. Along with the repairs, Back 2 New also sells sleek and modern accessories for the iPhone. After high school, Christian will be attending Webster University in St. Louis to study accounting. You can find Back 2 New on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram at [@Back2NewRepair](https://www.instagram.com/Back2NewRepair).



KIERSTEN GOODMAN

Plug into Eternity is a 60 Day Devotional written by Kiersten Goodman. Her goal is to teach others to plug into eternity, rather than worldly and materialistic belongings. This devotional includes 10 additional authors that contributed one devotional each. These authors have influenced Kiersten over the years in her walk with God. She hopes to inspire people to have a real relationship with God and strive every day to be better Christians. For more information you can contact her by liking her page on Facebook @PlugintoEternity.



DUSTIN GURLEY

Top World Designs is a website design and development company owned and operated by Dustin Gurley. Top World Designs works with businesses and customers of all sizes and levels of experience and works closely with the customer to ensure comfort and satisfaction. The websites created are customized to order on a drag-and-drop WordPress platform. After the website is completed, customers are given documentation and training on how to update their website. For more information, please visit www.topworlddesigns.com or contact Dustin directly at dusting@topworlddesigns.com. After high school, Dustin plans to attend Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology to major in mechanical engineering.



DONOVAN HAMMER

BuckHammer Targets is perfect for your business, sporting, and promotional needs. Created by Donovan Hammer, it offers a wide range of customizable & individualized paper shooting targets. These high quality targets come in many shapes, sizes, & designs to ensure a unique product for each customer. BuckHammer Targets' customers range from individuals with a desire to make a creative & individualized target(s), to companies or groups that want a new and unique way to advertise their business or association. Anyone wishing to contact Donovan Hammer with questions or to place an order, may reach him by email at buckhammertargets@gmail.com. After high school, Donovan plans on attending Lake Land College where he will study nursing and/or business.



ALEX HARDIEK

Alex Hardiek is the owner of **Box & Company**, a three-month subscription box containing a variety of products from local businesses. Subscribing to Box & Co. is a great way to learn more about participating businesses from the Effingham area. Subscribers will receive three boxes that each include four products from different businesses. The twelve products will cover a variety of categories, such as beauty, food, home décor, and accessories. To learn more about Box & Co., visit our Facebook page, Box & Co., and our website, www.boxandcosub.com. For more information, contact Alex by email at boxandcosub@gmail.com. Alex will be attending college at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana.



CARSON HARTKE

My Guy is a partnership with operations based in Teutopolis, Illinois. It was founded by Jacob Beckman and Carson Hartke. At this point in time, My Guy offers a variety of personal assistant services based on your personal needs. My Guy focuses on a large variety of customers. Varying from people who have work that they do not want to do or simply do not have the time to complete. If you are running low on time and need help you can contact My Guy at jacobbeckman17@gmail.com or chartke6@gmail.com. After graduating from Teutopolis High School, both Jacob and Carson plan on furthering their education at Lake Land College.



CAMRYN HEUERMAN

Cam's Creations is a business created by Camryn Heuerman that will feature multiple customizable items for sale. The products offered by Cam's Creations will include personalized wood blocks filled with personal photos and other bits of information on each of the six sides. These are perfect for all sorts of unique occasions such as weddings, graduations, or the birth of a child. Cam's Creations will also be selling customizable 16 ounce Tervis Tumblers, 16 ounce Classic Candy Tumblers (On-The-Go Cups with lids), and iPhone cases (6/6s, 6 plus, and 7). These items can be customized to feature initials, names, or quotes. Camryn plans on obtaining a degree in business after high school at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Camryn can be contacted at camrynh99@gmail.com.



KAYLA HOLSTE

Kayla Holste is the owner of **Just Dream**. Just Dream offers customizable dorm headboards. Customers can choose from three shapes, five fabrics, and the option of nailhead trim. Just Dream strives to help their customers create a dorm room that feels like home, not just a temporary living space. Kayla will be continuing her education at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee. To learn more about Just Dream, contact Kayla at kayholste@gmail.com or by visiting her Facebook and Instagram pages, [@justdreamheadboards](#).



KAYLEE HORN

Kaylee Horn has been experiencing the hectic life first hand as a senior juggling school activities, her job, and the CEO Class. She has a passion and love for helping others, but when life gets busy it can prevent anyone from lending that helping hand. Kaylee created **Chalk It Up** to help all busy women create a little extra organization at home. Check out their Facebook Page, Chalk It Up, to view the trendy products they offer and place your orders today. A special thank you goes to CEO for helping Kaylee create a business that helps her share her passion of helping others. After graduating from St. Anthony High School, Kaylee looks forward to continuing her education at SIU-Edwardsville where she plans to major in pre-dental.



CARSON HOWARD

Carson Howard is the owner and creator of **Bend the Trend**, an accessory boutique that offers women simple and trendy accessories. These accessories will cater to women of all ages because of their simplistic style. Accessories from Bend the Trend can be worn casually or dressed up to help enhance any outfit, depending on the occasion. Carson may be contacted at bendthetrend217@gmail.com or on her Facebook page, Bend the Trend. Carson plans to continue pursuing her passion by studying fashion merchandising and entrepreneurship at Illinois State University.



CALI JOHNSON

Cali Johnson is the founder of **Cali Bears**. Her business puts a new spin on your average teddy bear. Cali Bears provides customers with a unique teddy bear, allowing them to record a custom message to insert into the bear to send to a family member, significant other, or close friend. Cali Bears will be donating half of their profits to the Make a Wish Foundation. Cali believes in the foundation's goal of making dreams come true for children, and she wishes to provide a portion of her profits to that cause. Cali can be contacted at cali.johnson2017@gmail.com. Cali will continue her education at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, pursuing a degree in pre-medical biological sciences.



TREY KOESTER

Trey Koester has started the business **TK Golf Designs**. TK Golf Designs is currently specializing in custom golf gloves. Our design work and production is completed in Queen Anne, Maryland. Whether it's school, Charity event golf outing, or corporate event, we can provide a quality golf glove at a reasonable price. The product can also act as a great conversation piece to help market a brand or company. If interested in TK Golf Designs, feel free to contact Trey Koester by email at tkgolfdesigns@gmail.com or via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TKGolfDesigns/>. Trey feels that CEO has expanded his comfort zone and has taught him many life lessons that he plans to take with him to college. Trey plans on attending Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville.



ARIANNA KOPPLIN

Come feel like royalty at **The Royal Ball** where you will enjoy an afternoon meeting princesses and princes, learning a royal dance, riding in a royal carriage as well as other activities. Events By Arianna was inspired by her work experience at the Carriage House Event Center. She is showcasing her party planning skills by hosting The Royal Ball on June 25th, 2017, at the Keller Convention Center in Effingham. CEO has taught her the importance of giving. All proceeds of The Royal Ball will be going to Fear Nothing. Arianna is looking forward to putting smiles on children's faces as well as giving to people in need. Contact Arianna at akopplin17@gmail.com and look for the event page on Facebook, coming soon!



EVAN KUHL

Evan Kuhl is the owner and creator of **K-9 Line**, an online dog business driven by the wants and needs of dogs and their owners. Each K-9 Line box will include quality hand-made dog toys, dog treats and chews, and a collar paired with a personalized dog tag. Plus, business cards from local dog related businesses and educational information such as shots and disease prevention will be included to ensure the best care for every dog. This idea came from his love for animals and his aspiration to become a veterinarian. To order your K-9 Line box, order on our website, www.k9linebox.com. Follow K-9 Line on Facebook and Instagram to keep updated. For more information, Evan can be contacted at k9linebox@gmail.com. Evan will be attending Lake Land College to study pre-veterinary medicine.



LAUREL LIGHT

Laurel Light founded **Charmed: Bracelets With a Message**, to help inspire women of all ages each and every day. Charmed handmakes bracelets with charms that are repurposed from antique stores. Each charm has a unique meaning, and every bracelet comes with a message and a quote to inspire the wearer. Contact Charmed at lightlaurel99@gmail.com with any questions or custom orders. Laurel has enjoyed her experience through CEO, and looks forward to attending Webster University to study accounting.



MATT LINDERS

Matt's Tees is a custom t-shirt company based on the principle of getting a custom t-shirt for a reasonable price. Matt's tees creates great designs, custom tailored to whatever the customer wants. They strive for great quality at an affordable price. Matt's tees was founded by Matt Linders and solely ran by him. They specialize in cool and interesting designs and will put anything the customer wants on a t-shirt. Matt can be contacted at mattstees1@gmail.com.



ADAM LORENZ

Adam Lorenz is the author of **Eerie Experiences of Southern Illinois**. This book is compiled of haunted locations, paranormal experiences, and mysterious tales of the greater Effingham County area. The book will include geographical information, historical background, and detailed first-hand accounts of each haunted location. Adam grew up in small town outside of Evansville, IN, called Newburgh. Newburgh's downtown area has a rich history of ghost stories, hauntings, and paranormal activity. The rich heritage that he learned about piqued Adam's interest when he was younger and sparked the inspiration in him to write this book today. Adam can be contacted at eerieexperiences@gmail.com.



LAUREN OZENKOSKI

Lauren Ozenkoski is the creator and writer of **Our Bookshelf**, a blog all about books. Our Bookshelf is a place where reader becomes writer. It will feature reviews about classic and contemporary literature across all genres. The site will offer a forum for book lovers to share the rollercoaster of emotions as they read some of their favorite works. Lauren hopes to raise awareness of the importance of reading and to help people discover their own character through literature. For more information about Our Bookshelf, email questions to Lauren at ourbookshelfblog@gmail.com, or find Our Bookshelf on Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter. Lauren plans to attend Southern Illinois University in Carbondale to earn a degree in business.



KELLY RENTFROW

Kelly Rentfrow is the owner of **CupCake**, a business that incorporates art and delicious recipes into a simple treat for breakfast or dessert. With cooking times all around one minute, CupCake microwaveable mug cakes and muffins are quick breakfasts, perfect for students and anyone on the go. With five different flavors to choose from, there's sure to be a mix that satisfies your tastebuds and gives you a single serving of something sweet. Each baking mug features high quality hand drawn designs, adding individuality and uniqueness to your treat. If there are any questions, contact Kelly at cupcakemugs@gmail.com, and be sure to follow [@cupcakemugs](https://www.instagram.com/cupcakemugs) on instagram to see new designs and artwork. After graduating from St. Anthony High School, Kelly is attending Indiana University and majoring in business.



MITCHELL SAGER

Aeonex Watches is a new startup founded in December of 2016. Aeonex sells quality, affordable, and very classy watches to young professionals, students, and anyone looking for a quality watch at a low price. Aeonex sells online from Aeonexwatches.com and can be contacted at aeonexwatches@gmail.com. Aeonex is looking forward to helping anyone and everyone look good, in any situation. Time flies, Aeonex wants you to look good while it does.



CHRISTA SCHWINKE

Christa Schwinke, owner of **Piece By Piece Puzzles**, loves to put puzzles together with her family. This sparked the idea of creating puzzles so other families can share the same hobby. Her puzzles focus on the historical beauty in the Effingham and Teutopolis communities, while reaching out to those who have pride in their faith as well. From young to old, anyone can participate in revealing the hidden picture. The goal of Piece by Piece Puzzles is to bring families together one piece at a time. If there are any questions, contact Christa at piecebypiecepuzzles17@gmail.com.



RIYA SHAH

Riya Shah is the CEO of **Temporarily You**, a business that provides henna kits and individual henna cones for all ages over three. Henna is a temporary tattoo originating from India, and Riya is combining her culture with her passion for business to create Temporarily You. This product is used to display creativity on one's skin to empower them with confidence and motivation. The henna kit includes two cones, stencils, and detailed instructions. To learn more about her business or order your own henna product, email Riya at tempyou.henna@gmail.com. Follow Temporarily You on Facebook and Instagram: [@tempyou.henna](https://www.instagram.com/tempyou.henna). After graduation, Riya will be attending the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and plans to major in business administration and management.



LAUREN SIEMER

Lauren Siemer is the creator of **Bravo**, a music camp for kids. They'll get a chance to learn about and play different types of instruments and will be exposed to various genres of music. Our goal is to give children a taste of the endless opportunities a musical mind can create. All proceeds from this camp will be donated to Friends of Kids with Cancer, a not-for-profit organization based out of St. Louis whose motto is to help kids with cancer, be kids. To reserve your child's spot at Bravo or for more information, email her at siemerlu@gmail.com. Lauren has learned many life lessons in CEO that will be carried with her through college and beyond. After this year, she is headed to Illinois State University where she will study music therapy.



PATRICK TEGELER

Make your home stand out with a custom piece from **Heritage Homes**. Heritage Homes is a custom furniture and home decor company, created by Patrick Tegeler. Whether you are looking for a simple wall piece or a new table to gather the family, Heritage Homes has what you are looking for. Contact Patrick on Facebook at Heritage Homes.



SYDNIE VAHLING

Charmed Fragrance is a unique candle line, owned by Sydnie Vahling. Each scented candle is hand poured and 100% soy. What makes it so special is the piece of surprise jewelry placed inside each candle. Each piece is a necklace that has a stylish and trendy cement pendant on it. The candle is a perfect gift for women of any age. Contact Sydnie on Facebook at Charmed Fragrance. After graduating from Dieterich High School, Sydnie is excited to attend the University of Illinois to study social work.



MARIA VONDERHEIDE

Designs By Mia is a design-based business owned by Maria Vonderheide. Designs By Mia provides unique services including custom designs, calligraphy work, jewelry, and crafts. The first product to be produced is a coloring book, Effingham County Sites and Sights. The coloring book features 18 hand drawn and well known Effingham County sites and sights with a description on the back of each page. A portion of the profit made at the tradeshow will be donated to the Effingham County Cultural Center and Museum Association. Maria may be contacted at designsbymia98@gmail.com or on Facebook and Instagram at Designs By Mia. Maria plans to pursue her passion for business by obtaining a degree in business administration from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

“Early on, I thought that “It’s what you know that counts” in my career, because I perceived that to be my strong suit. Now, I recognize that “It’s who you know...” in this sense: our careers will be more fruitful and satisfying, the more we work with and for other people – coworkers, customers, vendors, our communities – in an environment of respect, trust, and responsibility.”

Rick Siemer Siemer Milling Company CEO Investor



HANNAH WALK

Painting with Miss Hannah is a kid's paint party. The event will be animal themed and each child will be given a choice of animals to paint. Painting with Miss Hannah will be held on May 27 from 10am-12pm at Heartpeace Studio in Effingham, IL and is for kids 3rd grade through 5th grade. Hannah has always loved art and is looking forward to spreading her love of art to other kids. You can contact Hannah at walk_hannah@yahoo.com. Hannah is planning on attending Indiana State University to study graphic design.



SIDNEY WEBSTER

"Adding Perspective to Life's Most Captivating Moments!" is the main goal at the professional photography business of **Perspective Photography by Sidney Webster**. Sidney focuses on providing photographs that display her perspective of prominent locations in Effingham, while also providing services for seniors, newborns, families, events, and corporate businesses. The objective is to provide each client with a creative and trustworthy photography service that will create images with the individual customer in mind. Sessions are fun, affordable, and create lasting memories. Sessions can be booked through Facebook (Perspective Photography by Sidney Webster), Instagram (@sidsperspective_photography), or email (sidsperspective@hotmail.com). Sidney plans to attend Greenville University to major in business administration and minor in theological studies while playing basketball for the Lady Panthers.



MARY CLAIRE WEGMAN

Roots is a business created by Mary Claire Wegman to convey memories and a sense of pride for Effingham County. Roots believes that "No matter what you become, your roots remind you where you're from." Offering jewelry, pillows, blankets, and drink huggies, Roots relays their message through personalized products adorned with the latitude and longitude of Effingham County. The personalized items paired with simplistic designs create the perfect gift for graduates, those moving away, visitors, or locals. These products are subtle reminders to always remember where you came from, no matter where life takes you. Always carry a piece of home or a fond memory with you with Roots merchandise. Follow them on Facebook [@EffinghamCountyRoots](https://www.facebook.com/EffinghamCountyRoots) and Instagram [@effinghamcountyyroots](https://www.instagram.com/effinghamcountyyroots).



CALEB WENDT

Caleb Wendt, CEO of **Infinite Countertops**, is bringing a new concept of countertop designs to your home. Combining the life and durability of granite, but with the flexibility and limitless color and forming options of concrete, at the most affordable price. He looks forward to bringing his designs to your home. Infinite Countertops can be contacted at infinitecountertops@gmail.com or messaged on Facebook.



SAMI WILL

Charming Rose provides anyone with personalized yet affordable jewelry. These products could be made for a special someone, friend, mother, and so on. You can have your favorite mascots name, a person's name, or a favorite inspirational saying/word. You can go to Charming Rose's Facebook page to see already made pieces for customers and also leave a message with an order attached. Customers may contact Sami Will, the owner, at samiwill98@yahoo.com or on the Facebook page with any questions about the jewelry. Sami loves being a part of the CEO class learning and growing as a young individual. Sami is attending Lake Land Community College studying teaching and special education and then transferring to a four year university.



SYDNEY ZACHA

Sydney Zacha is the author of **Mady & the Lost Magic**. Mady & the Lost Magic offers a unique twist on the typical children's book. Her book allows the child to be engaged while being read to by allowing them to color. You can purchase a copy of her book at szacha17@gmail.com. Sydney is attending Lake Land College to attain her associates in business administration.



"I often hear it said, "follow your passion!" For young people, I feel it is more appropriate to say "FIND YOUR PASSION". I worked many different jobs when I was young and even the jobs I did not enjoy taught me a lot about myself and the path I needed to take to FIND and then follow my passion."

Jerry McDaniel - Superior Fuels, Inc. CEO Investor

ENTREPRENEURIAL JOURNEY

Being an entrepreneur is a high-risk, high-reward position. It's full of stressful situations, sure, but it's also chock full of rewards and a sense of accomplishment. If a student has the willingness to take in and process all the speakers, business tours and gains confidence to network with the Effingham County business community, they will graduate the CEO Program with a better understanding of what it takes to start and run a business. Special CEO days like planning the CEO Experience, preparing financials for Banker Day and presenting the perfect pitch for Shark Tank provides the pathway to success not only at the CEO Trade Show, but builds confidence to a bright future.

GUEST SPEAKERS

More than 100 community business leaders spoke to Effingham County CEO students on a variety of topics. Numerous discussions and presentations were explored on distribution, management strategies, finances, marketing, presentation skills, and many life lessons to walk into their adult life with confidence.

BUSINESS VISITS

CEO students visited more than 60 area businesses, where they toured facilities and interviewed owners, managers, and employees. Business visits are an eye opening experience, as students are able to explore and learn about local companies they have passed by all their lives. These business visits build a deep understanding and strong connection between our present and future business leaders.

BANKER DAY, SHARK TANK & BUSINESS PLANS

Over a course of a year, students write two business plans they present to the bankers and investors where they have professionals critique and provide sound advice on how to move forward with starting their business. The feedback from Banker Day then leads into presenting at Shark Tank Day where students pitch their business ideas and exhibit their products and services to gain insight to perfect their business before the Trade Show.

CEO TRADE SHOW

This is where all the culmination of what was experienced in CEO comes to reality. It is a big day for CEO young entrepreneurs who have been planning for months. The Trade Show is held at the Thelma Keller Convention Center and it spotlights the businesses created by each student in the class. This is also a great event for the area where many families bring their younger children to introduce them the CEO Program.

CINCINNATI REDS

The Cincinnati Reds are great friends of the Effingham County CEO program. This spring, Effingham County CEO continues its tradition of spending a day with the senior leadership of the Reds, job shadowing, and learning about the business of Major League Baseball.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Each student is matched with a mentor from the business community. The mentors present to the class their personal career story and why they wish to be a CEO mentor. The students select their mentor by providing their top 10 choices after hearing the mentor presentations. Both mentors and proteges provide a detailed survey of their backgrounds, interests, expectations and future career goals that are referenced when making the final selections for the mentor match. It is stressed that the protege leads the mentoring relationship.



MENTORING WITH PURPOSE

Each student is matched with a mentor through hearing mentor presentations and provided questionnaires to reference with the selection process. These business mentoring relationships provide another community network for students to gain confidence and direction with their personal businesses. The Ambassadors work as team mentors who attend class to share best practices with the class and serve as a focus group when planning the CEO Experience. The engagement of both the mentors and ambassadors also offer as a personal source to tap into Effingham County's experienced business community.

"The Effingham County CEO mentoring program allows me to give a little something back to our community, while witnessing our next generation of hard-working leaders develop. I also enjoy the mentoring program for the fresh perspective it brings to our business and the way it energizes the day. Thanks for the opportunity!"

*Mentor Matt Cekander
Doehring, Winders, & Co. LLP*



Madeline Aherin listens as Dwight Erskine, her mentor shares his keen perspective.



Mentor Tim Ellis discussing the next steps with his protege Christian Deters.



Ambassador Wanda Pitcher meets with class members to listen to their proposed ideas for the upcoming CEO Experience. Having a focus group to seek direction with ideas is a valuable concept for students to take into their future when making big decisions.

2017 MENTORS

Rachel Anderson
Jansen's Dance Studio

Justin Beyers
Bonutti Technologies

Dean Bingham
Agracel, Inc.

Boris Bonutti
Bonutti Technologies

Noah Brandenburger
Loudon Machine, Inc
Ambassador

Jake Buhnerkempe
J&R Collision Centers

Dawn Burrow
Promark Advertising

Theresa Bushur
Prudential Insurance

Matt Cekander
Doering, Winders, & CO. LLP, CPA

Rusty Conner
Irwin Telescopic Seating Co.

Matt Cremens
Bonutti Technologies

Matt Dasenbrock
Washington States Bank

Mike Defend
Crossroads Bank

Kaye Dent
Frisse & Brewster Law Offices
Ambassador

David Doedtman
Washington Savings Bank

Jill Feldhake
Dieterich Bank

Debby Frailey
Century 21 Realtor

Tim Ellis
Heartland Dental

Brent Emmerich
ewebdesign

Dwight Erskine
Raymond James Financial

Karen Etter
ReMax Key Advantage

Erin Goldstein
Hodgson Mills, Inc.

Laura Hemmen
Designer (House Plans)

Pam Hemmen
Patterson Companies

Brad Koester
First State Bank of Beecher City

Katie Koester
Firefly Grill, LLC

Norma Lansing
Effingham County
Chamber of Commerce

Kerris Lee
Midland States Bank

Tara McAllaster
Multi Market Success R + F

Ron Mietzner
Martin's IGA Plus

Danielle Niebrugge
Continental Mills

Kellie Niemerg
Lake Land College

Jake Pals
John Boos & Company Inc.

Wanda Pitcher
Tuscan Hills Winery
Ambassador

Tom Purcell
Retired Executive
Ambassador

Theresa Rutherford
HSHS St. Anthony Memorial Hospital

Julie Shamhart
Smith Moore

Rick Siemer
Siemer Milling Company
Ambassador

Bev Soltwedel
Life Long Learner
Ambassador

Jeff Speer
ReMax Key Advantage - Ambassador

Jamie Stang
Stang Arts
Ambassador

Elaine Stock
Heartland Dental
Ambassador

Aaron Stortzum
Old Mac's Drive Thru

Chris Swing
Vantage Outsourcing

Jodi Tardy
Heartland Dental

Jeff Traub
Down Stream Energy
Ambassador

Mike Walker
Drs. Sehy & Jones Optometrists

Lucas Wenthe
Bonutti Technologies

Jennifer Westendorf
Patterson Companies

Stephanie Westendorf
EJ Water Cooperative, Inc.

Tracy Willenborg
Taylor Law Offices, P.C.

Eric Zeller
Effingham Ophthalmology
Associates

"The best way a mentor can prepare another leader is to expose him or her to other great people."

John C Maxwell

CEO IN ACTION



INVESTORS

Agracel, Inc.
AKRA Builders, Inc.
Al's Tire Mart and
Electonics Center
B & B Homes, LLC
B & L Machine & Design
Balda Dental Office
Beck's Hybrids
Bonutti Clinic
Boyajian, Dr. Ruben
Bray Title Services
Brumleve Industries, Inc.
Bushue Human Resources, Inc.
Center For Jaw &
Facial Surgery, PC
CEO Class 2010
CEO Class 2011
CEO Class 2012
CEO Class 2013
CEO Class 2014
CEO Class 2015
CEO Class 2016
City of Altamont
City of Effingham
Country Financial/Jacob & Christina
Donsbach
Crossroads Bank
Dan Hecht Chevrolet Toyota, Inc.
Dieterich Bank
Dust and Son Auto Supplies
Dusty's Outdoor Media
Edward Jones, Lynn Deters
Effingham County
Effingham Ophthalmology
Associates
EJ Water Cooperative, Inc.
Erskine, Dwight & Karen/
Raymond James Financial
Farm Credit Illinois
Firefly Grill, LLC
First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust
First State Bank of Beecher City
Grunloh Construction, Inc.
Heartland Dental, LLC
Tom & Lana Henderson/State Farm
Insurance
Higgs Welding
Hodgson Mill, Inc
HSHA St. Anthony's Memorial
Hospital
Huels Veterinary Services
Illinois Power Generating Company
J&R Collision Centers, LLC
J&J Ventures Gaming, LLC
Jack Flash
Jansen Cable Construction, Inc.
Joe's Pizza & Pasta
John Boos & Company
Kabbes, Scott & Sue
Kemper CPA Group, LLP
Koboldt Charitable Trust
Koerner Distributor, Inc
Lake Land College
Lee's Snap-on Tools
Linders Ltd LLC/McDonald's
Lindvahl, Craig & Beth
Loudon Machine, Inc
MBS Communications
Malone Travel Center
Martin's IGA Plus
McDevitt, Osteen, Chojnicki, & Deters
McHugh Hospitality Group, Inc.
Mette's Cabinet Corner, Inc.
Midland States Bancorp, Inc.
Milano & Grunloh Engineers
Momentum Builders Inc.
Patterson Companies, Inc
Probst Auto Body, Inc
Prudential Financial Services/
Rich & Angie Hartke
Pyramid Marble & Granite
RE/MAX Key Advantage Realtors
Respond Communications, Inc
Roy Schmidt Honda
Samuel Family Foundation
Sandschafer Electric
Schultz Investment Company, Inc
Servpro of Effingham
Siemer, Austin & Fuhr
Siemer Milling Company
Signature HomeStyles
Smith Moore
South Central FS
Stanfield Chiropractic
State Farm Insurance
Stevens Industries, Inc
Superior Fuels, Inc.
Sutterfield Law Offices, P.C.
Taylor Law Offices, P.C.
Teutopolis Community For Progress
The Equity - Effingham
The Kabbes Development Group
Thelma Keller Convention Center at
Holiday Inn
Three Z Printing Co
Tingley Insurance Agency, Inc.
Tuscan Hills Winery
Vantage Outsourcing
Versatech, LLC
Village of Beecher City
Village of Dieterich
Village of Teutopolis
Washington Savings Bank
Weber's Clothing & Jewelry
West & Company, LLC
Wolters, Bob & Karen
Wright's Furniture & Flooring
Y-Yard Auto & Truck, Inc.

ALUMNI BUSINESSES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>	<u>CEO CLASS YEAR</u>
Michael Brummer	The Dog	2010
Dylan Meadows	DM Designs Construction	2010
Keith Sutterfield	Sutterfield Media, Inc.	2010
Sean Sandifer	Country Carved	2014
Riley Pruemer	Country Carved	2015
Zach Mette	Mette's Distinctive Lighting	2015
Devin Aherin	Aherin Seed	2015
Collin Hecht	Subtl Leathers	2016



Dylan Meadows



Zach Mette



Sean Sandifer & Riley Pruemer



Devin Aherin



Michael Brummer



Collin Hecht



Keith Sutterfield



2016 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

2016 OPEN PRAIRIE VENTURES CEO SCHOLARSHIP

The partners of Open Prairie Ventures, a venture capital investment firm, have created an annual scholarship for one graduate of the Effingham County CEO Program in Effingham, Illinois. The scholarship amount is \$4,000 (1,000 per year for four years).

Joedy Hightower representing Open Prairie Ventures presented the award to Chandler Martelli



2016 JOHN H. SCHULTZ SCHOLARSHIP

The John H. Schultz, CEO Scholarship was created in memory of John H. Schultz, an Effingham area entrepreneur and businessman. It was created by the children of John and Fran Schultz and is a \$1,000 annual scholarship.

Bob Schultz presented the John H. Schultz Scholarship to Dalton Kemper



2016 ENTREPRENEURS OF THE YEAR

Steve Witges, Chairman of the Effingham County CEO Board presented Travis Whitt and Reed Schafer the “Entrepreneurs of the Year” awarded by their fellow CEO students.

Steve Witges & Reed Schafer

Steve Witges & Travis Whitt



CEO CLASS HOST SITES



Roy Schmidt Honda



BUSINESS TOURS

Accuracy Firearms
Anderson's Jewelry
Artison Depot
Baseball Card Connection
Bike-n-Hike
Burkland's Florist & Gifts
CandleArt
Carriage House Event Center
Cincinnati Reds
Cobblestone Inn & Suites
Community Support Systems
Culvers
Dan Hecht Chevrolet-Toyota, Inc.
Davita Dialysis
Designs Unlimited
Effingham Area Catholic Charities
Effingham County FISH
Effingham Performance Center
Effingham Public Library
EJ Water Cooperative, Inc.
Evergreen Terrace
Heartland Greenhouses
Hodgson Mill, Inc.
Holiday World & Splashin' Safari
HSHS St. Anthony Memorial Hospital
Irwin Telescopic Seating
Jimmy Johns
J&R Collision Center
Thelma Keller Convention Center at Holiday Inn
Lexington Inn and Suites
Loudon Machine
Martin's IGA
McWhorter Hog Facility
Mette's Cabinet Corner
Mette's Distinctive Lighting
Mid-America Motorworks
Midland States Bancorp, Inc.
Old Mac's Drive Thru
Party Worx
Patterson Technology Center
Roy Schmidt Honda
Schultz's Dairy Bar
Siemer Milling Company
South Central FS
Stang Arts
Steven's Industries
The Pizza Man
The Thomas Shop
Tuscan Hills Winery
Vantage Outsourcing
Walk's Auto Body
Wal-Mart
Weber Clothing
Weber Jewelry
Wendte Farms, Ltd.- Roy Wendte
West & Company
Wiedman's Cleaners
Wrights Furniture and Flooring
Y-Yard Auto & Truck, Inc.

CEO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Witges
Chairman
Farm Credit Illinois



Bill Fritcher
Superintendent
Unit 50 School District



Noah Brandenburger
Chair-Elect
Loudon Machine, Inc.



Karen Etter
Re/Max Key Advantage



Dick Rhodes
Dusty's Outdoor Media/
Country Rhodes



Tom Purcell
Retired Sales & Marketing
Executive



Dwight Erskine
Raymond James
Financial



Jennifer Patton
Effingham High School
Guidance Counselor



Lucas Wenhe
Bonutti Technologies



Kevin Haarman
Principal
Dieterich High School



Dennis Deters
Vantage Outsourcing



Keith Sutterfield
CEO Alumni Coordinator
Sutterfield Media, Inc.



Date: _____

Name _____

Company Name _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I wish to make a contribution to the Effingham County Entrepreneurship Fund.

_____ \$3,000 total—paid \$1,000 per year over a three-year period

_____ \$3,000 paid in full

(I understand I will not be contacted for a renewal during the next 3 years).

Please check here if you wish to be invoiced.

Signature _____

Please make checks payable to the Effingham County Entrepreneurship Fund

PO Box 1211- Effingham, IL 62401 Phone 217-342-4988

*The Effingham County Community Foundation is an affiliate of the Southeastern Illinois Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization.
Your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

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MAKING CONNECTIONS



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.effinghamceo.com

Steve Witges
CEO Chairman
Effingham County CEO
217.259.6640

Kristy Sayers
Facilitator
217.994.1696
aksayers1@hotmail.com

Lisa Teichmiller
Network Developer
217.254.5755
mlisateichmiller@gmail.com
Incoming CEO Facilitator for
2017-18

CEO Mission Statement

The Mission of the Effingham County CEO class is to provide a comprehensive educational experience, equipping our students to become enterprising individuals and entrepreneurial thinkers who will contribute to the economic development and sustainability of Effingham County.



CEO Vision Statement

The CEO class embodies everything that our country was built upon. The core principles of hard work, innovative thinking, and entrepreneurship are values that we experience everyday through CEO.

So now the excitement accelerates as the 10th Effingham County CEO class begins the journey.

For more info on being a CEO Investor please visit

www.effinghamceo.com