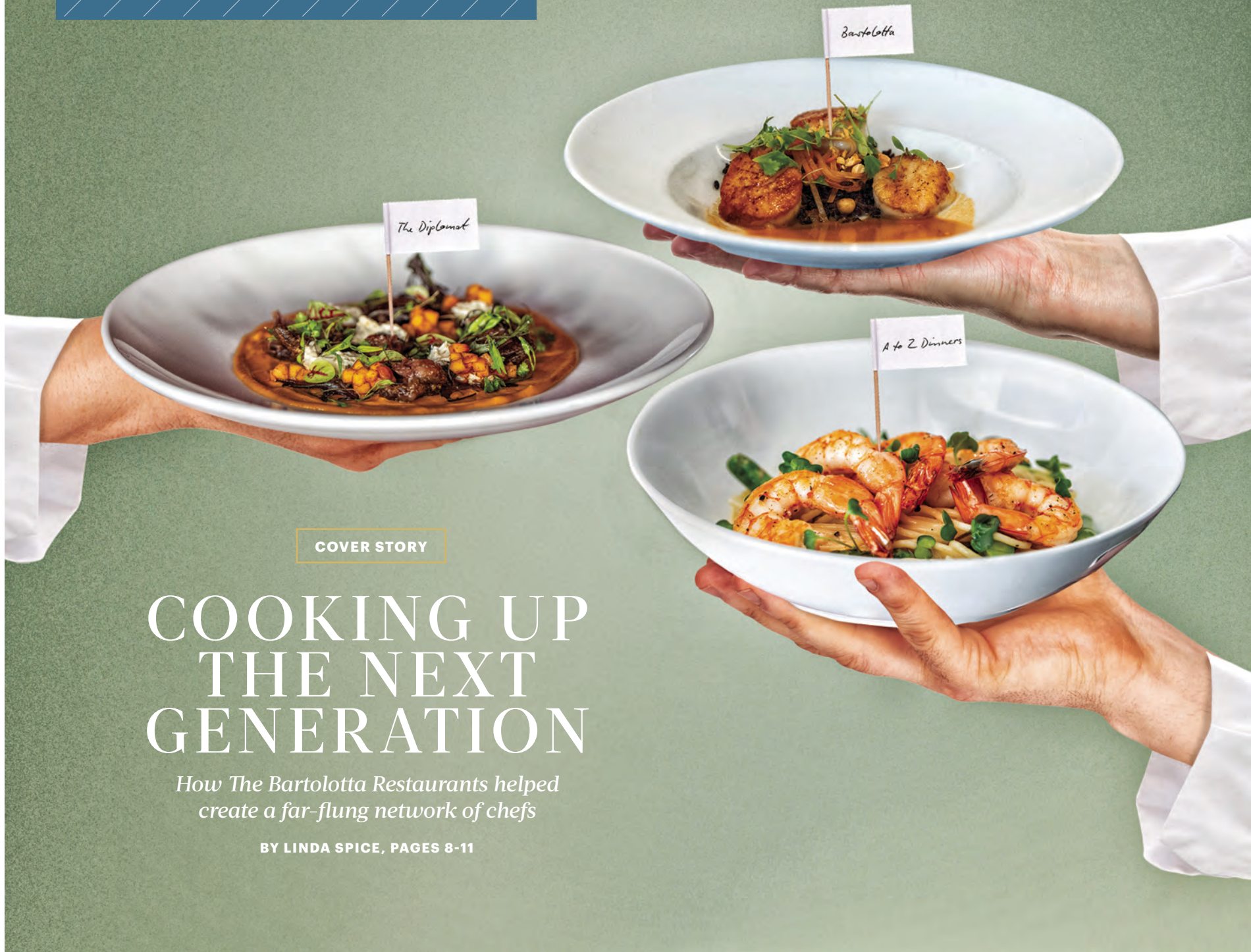


MILWAUKEE BUSINESS JOURNAL



COVER STORY

COOKING UP THE NEXT GENERATION

*How The Bartolotta Restaurants helped
create a far-flung network of chefs*

BY LINDA SPICE, PAGES 8-11

MBJ PHOTO ILLUSTRATION; KENNY YOO | MBI

T H E L I S T MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES 14

**MILWAUKEE
BUSINESS JOURNAL**
Oct. 25-31, 2024
Vol. 42, No. 9

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C-SUITE STARS

Meet 2024's top local executives

The C-Suite Stars program
is honoring a range of
Milwaukee's top leaders.

TIMOTHY GIBBONS, 2

Business Journal honors Milwaukee's top execs

Annual C-Suite Stars program recognizes standout leaders in region's business community

BY TIMOTHY GIBBONS
tgibbons@bizjournals.com

Leadership is one of those nebulous terms that gets tossed around a lot, even though it can be hard to define.

What's a little bit easier is to see it in practice – and across the greater Milwaukee area, there are men and women who are demonstrating leadership every day.

Celebrating the leadership shown by a range of executives is the motivation behind the Milwaukee Business Journal's C-Suite Stars awards program. This program – which is somewhat modified from previous years – honors leaders across several executive functions.

Any of the executives being honored

are also eligible to be considered as Executive of the Year, an honor that focuses on an individual who has – in addition to a stellar track record – had a major impact upon the business community in 2024.

Selecting these winners is never easy. They come from a variety of industries and company sizes, and their accomplishments may be entirely behind the scenes or play out on the public stage.

In every case, though, these are the people who have demonstrated true leadership, shaping not just the future of their organization but helping move the broader community into the future.

We'll be celebrating all of these honorees at a special program Dec. 12, and we invite you to take part in the event.

This year's winners are:

Top Executives

- Marty Brooks, CEO of Wisconsin Center District
- Laura Gutierrez, CEO of United Community Center



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- Ryan Keepman, CEO of Evans Transportation Services Inc.
- Rashi Khosla, CEO of MARS Solutions Group
- Chris Miskel, CEO of Versiti
- Kevin Wheeler, CEO of A. O. Smith Corp.

Top Finance Executives

- Nick Bickler, chief investment officer at Three Leaf Partners
- Mark Behrens, chief financial officer at Johnson Financial Group
- Michelle Goetsch, chief financial officer at Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast

Top Corporate Counsel

- Andrew Gorman, general counsel and corporate secretary at Brady Corp.
- Megan Schleicher, senior director of environmental, social and governance at Plexus Corp.

Top Marketing Executives

- Angi Krueger, chief marketing officer at OwnersEdge
- Justin McCoy, vice president of marketing at Cousins Submarines Inc.
- Kristine Naidl, executive vice president and head of public relations at Laughlin Constable

Top HR Executives

- Rob Reynolds, senior vice president and human resources director at Bank Five Nine
- Valley Elliehausen, chief people officer at A.B. Data Group
- Adrienne Mitchell, vice president and chief people officer at the Medical College of Wisconsin



Milwaukee Business Journal is a publication of ACBJ: 120 W. Morehead St., Charlotte, N.C. 28202
Whitney Shaw, CEO • Ray Shaw, Chairman (1989-09)

Milwaukee Business Journal, (USPS #718250) (ISSN #0740-2899) is published weekly by American City Business Journals Inc., at 825 N. Jefferson St., Suite 200, Milwaukee, WI 53202. Subscription rate for one year is \$220 for print. Periodical postage paid at Milwaukee, Wisconsin and additional mailing offices. Entire contents of this newspaper are copyrighted by American City Business Journals Inc, 2024 with all rights reserved. Reproduction or use, without permission, of editorial or graphic content in any manner is prohibited.

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\$8M AmFam Field facelift will replace seats, signs

BY LOGAN HANSON

lhanson@bizjournals.com

Milwaukee Brewers fans are in for some changes at American Family Field, with millions in tourism tax dollars going to upgrade seats, signs and more.

The Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District will be spending \$8.45 million on 17 capital projects at the stadium, including spending \$1.45 million to upgrade the park's premium seats.

The stadium's loge-level seats will be replaced, with the cast iron stanchions and seat number tags being replaced. The plastic seat backs and bottoms will be reused to the extent possible, Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District Associate Director Kristi Kreklow said.

The change, which will not increase seating capacity, is similar to what was done in club-level seating in 2020 and field-level seating in 2023.

The district is also embarking on upgrading the thousand or so wayfinding signs throughout the stadium, starting by determining exactly how many signs there are and then paying \$300,000 to design new ones.

The signs, which are original to the building, will be updated to current standards and code and help patrons get around the stadium, Kreklow said.

The district anticipates bidding out the design phase of the wayfinding signs as one project and the manufacturing and installation as another. The project will not be completed prior to next season.

One other big project won't be visible to fans at all but may make game day a little more comfortable: That involves replacing a chiller that is original to the building, a project that will run about \$1.8 million.

This would provide updated technology with a new chiller that is more efficient, would need less maintenance and would have a longer lifespan, Kreklow said.



SCOTT PAULUS

MARS Solutions Group, now based in Milwaukee, provides technology talent services.

Staffing firm moves HQ downtown

MARS is the latest firm from the Waukesha area to relocate to Milwaukee

BY LOGAN HANSON

lhanson@bizjournals.com

Another Waukesha County employer has moved to downtown Milwaukee.

MARS Solutions Group, which provides technology talent services, has moved from its previous office at 20900 Swenson Drive in Waukesha to an office building at 1433 N. Water St. in Milwaukee. The decision was made to move closer to the company's clientele, said MARS Marketing Manager Valerie Buchman.

"A lot of our clients are located in downtown Milwaukee," Buchman said. "(This move) really helps

us get out there and have more and more of those meaningful face-to-face conversations with clients."

The new space is a benefit for employees, too, as it allows for an easier commute for team members and could be used as a recruiting tool, Buchman said. MARS will have nine staff members on site.

The staffing business will be housed in the building's fourth floor co-working office area known as Spaces. MARS has four dedicated individual offices there for company leadership, along with common areas, Buchman said.

The facility is a former Laacke & Joys site redeveloped into offices by Wangard Partners. MARS began work in the building this month, joining tenants that include Bader Rutter and Riverwater Partners.

As a growing enterprise, ranking on the Inc. 5000 list of the fastest-growing companies in 2023, MARS leadership expects the move

"(This move) really helps us get out there and have more and more of those meaningful face-to-face conversations with clients."

Valerie Buchman,
MARS Solutions
Group

will also allow for the business to continue its momentum. With plans to enter more service spaces and expand into other markets throughout Wisconsin and possibly in the Chicagoland area, it felt like the right time.

MARS, led by founder and CEO Rashi Khosla, is one of the Milwaukee area's largest minority-owned businesses as well as one of the state's largest women-owned businesses with 215 local staff and \$18 million in revenue in its latest fiscal year, according to Milwaukee Business Journal research. Khosla was also recognized by the Business Journal as a Woman of Influence in 2022.

MARS is the latest in a string of Waukesha-based companies to move downtown. They include Fiserv Inc., Milwaukee Tool, Northwestern Mutual, SoftwareOne, Allspring Global Investments and Enerpac Tool Group.

Real Estate Industry



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GROWTH

Area natives team up on construction company

Two Milwaukee natives are teaming up to launch a construction company that recently broke ground on its first project.

Michael Emem and Humberto Sanchez are the co-founders of MESH Construction LLC, a general contracting and construction management firm. Emem also leads the Milwaukee real estate development firm Emem Group LLC, and Sanchez recently left VJS Construction Services, where he spent nearly 14 years as a project manager.

The company's first project is an affordable housing development that involves building 20 duplexes — a total of 40 housing units — on vacant lots in Milwaukee's King Park neighborhood. Construction started this month after Emem Group recently closed on financing for the \$10.8 million project, Emem said.

The project is representative of the types of work MESH Construction plans to take on. Its initial focus will be on projects generally under \$10 million, including multifamily developments with around 50 units or less, and light commercial projects including tenant buildouts, Emem said.

MESH Construction will manage projects and subcontract out the actual construction labor, Emem said. The company, named using its owners' initials, is led by Emem as CEO and Sanchez as president.

SOLD



SHUTTER ZONE MEDIA

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee chancellor's residence sold Oct. 11.

UWM CHANCELLOR HOME SELLS FOR \$1M

The sale of the real estate came with some caveats, which the buyers agreed to

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee sold its former chancellor's residence Oct. 11 for \$1 million, with the buyer agreeing not to make exterior changes to the historic home, according to the property's listing agent.

Located near the UWM campus on Milwaukee's coveted Lake Drive, the home hit the market for nearly \$1.3 million in March. It took months to sell in part because the university created a historic preservation conservation easement with the Historical Society of Wisconsin that prevents future owners from making changes to the property's exterior, said Suzanne Powers of Powers Realty Group, who handled the listing.

"They wanted to make sure that the historical integrity of the property remained the same," Powers said.

The easement was finalized in July, Powers said. There were multiple inter-



Mark Mone, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

ested buyers before that, but they didn't want to agree to restrictions on the property without knowing what those restrictions would be, she said.

The buyers are Mark and Wanda Staples, according to state real estate records. Andrew Otis with Shorewest Realtors represented the buyers.

The home, which spans 5,668 square feet, with six bedrooms, three full bathrooms and three half-baths, is located across the street from homes that have frontage on Lake Michigan.

UWM's sale of the home is part of multiple cost-cutting measures and real estate divestitures. The home was previously occupied by UWM Chancellor Mark Mone, and it was also used for entertaining and university meetings.

Mone, who is stepping down as chancellor July 1, 2025, moved out of the chancellor's residence in late 2023 after purchasing a home nearby.

The UWM Real Estate Foundation paid \$955,000 for the home in 2012 and then transferred it to UWM for \$645,000.

After hitting the market in March, the property's price dropped to \$1.22 million in late April.

RESIDENTIAL

Milwaukee still a great market for home sellers

Southeast Wisconsin's housing market firmly favors sellers, who are likely to get multiple over-asking offers, Greater Milwaukee Association of Realtors President Mike Ruzicka said. Here are his thoughts on the market, edited for space and clarity.

Why is it a good time to sell?

There is no inventory. The level of new construction hasn't been where it needs to be for more than 15 years. As a result, we've had just a huge deficit of housing that hasn't been created over the last 15 years, and now demand is even higher because we have two young generations coming in: They're right at prime home-buying ages, and they're starting families, and they're in apartments and they want to move into a house.

We had a crazy seller's market during the pandemic. How does the current market compare to that?

It has calmed down a little bit. There are still multiple offers, but it's not as frenzied as it was. At that time, we had low interest rates also, so everybody, basically, could qualify for a loan to go purchase a house. Prior to the pandemic, prices were going up at a pretty steady pace. But during the pandemic, they really accelerated. This year, they're just continuing to go up again.

What's your best advice for sellers right now? Even though it's a seller's market, don't feel like you can just throw your house up and get top dollar. It still has to be in good condition — ideally move-in condition. It has to have fresh paint, carpeting. You know, curb appeal is really important.

Given the lack of inventory, what's your advice for buyers right now?

They have to be patient. Talk to the Realtor. ... Send letters out in the neighborhood to see if there's anybody that might be wanting to sell that hasn't put their house up yet. Definitely talk to the bank, get your financing set so that when you walk into a house and you decide you really like it, you can make an offer in short order.



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ON THE MARKET

WHAT'S NEXT FOR SAGE AFTER WHITE HOUSE SALE



LIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

EXPANSION

Chicken restaurant has big plans for Wisconsin

Raising Cane's is continuing its expansion across Wisconsin, with four stores on the way.

That includes the popular chicken restaurant opening a location in the city of Oak Creek in March of 2026.

The new Milwaukee-area store will come after the Louisiana-based national chain has opened seven locations across the state, Jason Zwerin, vice president of company restaurants for Raising Cane's, told the Milwaukee Business Journal.

"Whenever we're looking for locations, obviously we go to where we don't have them, but where there's high traffic and density," Zwerin said. "So the locations that we've opened up so far have been very successful in the fact that we've been very busy ... all seven days a week. It's been great to see."

Raising Cane's established its presence in the state when its first location opened in Madison in 2021. It sparked its growth in Wisconsin over the last year by opening in Kenosha in December 2023, Greendale in July 2024 and Brookfield in September 2024.

A store in Eau Claire is expected to open in December followed by locations in Janesville in early 2025 and La Crosse in summer of 2025. Zwerin said there are no other locations planned until Oak Creek opens in 2026.

The owner has invested in the historic property, which is listed for \$1.6M

Once The White House in Bay View is sold, the Sage restaurant located inside the historic property will close, restaurateur Allison Meinhardt told the Milwaukee Business Journal.

"We're staying open until a possible sale would take place," Meinhardt said.

hardt said.

For now, Sage is open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday inside the historic building, which is listed for \$1.6 million.

A handful of potential buyers – some restaurateurs and a few investment companies – have expressed interest in the property at 2900 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. since it went on the market Sept. 13.

"I would love to see it go to someone who loves it as much as I do," said Meinhardt, who said she is willing to stay on at the property for

Sage restaurant will close when The White House at 2900 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. is sold.

a few months to help the new owners to get acclimated.

Meinhardt is selling the property, which she purchased for \$400,000 in 2019 and updated earlier this year, as she focuses on her family.

"It's hard to find time for family life when you are busy 24-7 and working late, long hours," she said. "I'm looking for more of a normal situation in the hopes to have a family."

She maintained The White House concept for bridal parties and other events by reservation, having it coexist at the property as the restaurant transformed into Sage. Sage features what Meinhardt described previously as "a more global palate" of "eclectic and elevated" dishes of small plates, large plates and shareables.

She said the 4,800-square-foot building is "a beautiful, unique property but for one person, it is a bit of work. It will take a specific buyer." The building was built in 1890 with Queen Anne-style architecture and retains its original bar on the first floor, according to the property's real estate listing.

Meinhardt said she invested heavily in the property, including the addition of a commercial-grade kitchen, which is included in the sale listing. Also included with the sale are 50 antique chairs, an antique host stand, 20 tables, antique sofas, patio furniture, all kitchen equipment and more.

The three-story property features a private garden and parking for 16 on a triple city lot.

GROWTH

Sushi restaurant builds on chef's years of experience

A sushi restaurant proposed for Milwaukee's Walker's Point neighborhood comes from a concept envisioned by a private sushi chef with more than 15 years of experience at restaurants in Chicago and New York.

Chef Worawit Boonyapitaksakul and partner Theeraporn Phetleung have applied with the city for a business and liquor license for 1033 Omakase at 1033 S. First St. in Milwaukee inside one of the Trio Apartments

buildings. The partners do not have a date for opening except to note on the application "as soon as possible."

Phetleung, who goes by the name Cherry, referred questions on the restaurant concept to Boonyapitaksakul, via his Instagram account, @dag_homakase, where he features posts about his private chef experiences. He could not be reached for comment.

Drawings submitted with the application show space for 11 seats around an L-shaped counter inside a 500-square-foot space. About 90% of anticipated sales are expected to come from food, with 10% expected from alcohol sales, according to the application.

The restaurant will take over the space recently vacated by 1033 MKE, which co-owners Rob Levin and Tony Bisciglia opened in May 2023 and closed in July 2024.

Manufacturing Industry



Rich Kirchen

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QUOTABLE

“We’ve done a lot of work developing a set of products and technologies that help our customers electrify and automate their vehicles.”

Austin Ramirez,
Husco International

REBOUND

New contracts lead to hiring as Husco invests in local plant

After a setback, the manufacturer is once again on a growth path

Husco International has announced \$200 million in newly awarded contracts, a \$55 million investment in its plants and plans to hire 250 employees a little over two years after the business sustained what CEO Austin Ramirez called a heart-breaking contract cancellation.

In July 2022, the Waukesha-based manufacturer revealed a major automaker canceled Husco’s largest contract ever – worth \$113 million per year for multiple years. Since then, the Waukesha company has focused on new business development and scored a series of wins the past 18 months,



KENNY YOO | MBJ

Husco has focused on new business development and scored a series of wins over the past 18 months.

Ramirez said in an interview.

“That was a big blow,” Ramirez said of the 2022 cancellation. “And we refocused, and we’ve had a tremendous amount of success.”

The company doesn’t dis-

close the identities of its customers, but Ramirez said the new business recently announced is spread across Husco customer categories and geographies for automakers, automotive suppliers and off-highway equipment manufacturers.

One of the automaker customers involved in the new contracts is the same one that canceled the \$113 million contract in 2022, Ramirez said.

“There’s not one big program like then (in 2022),” he said. “In many ways, that’s good. We’re super excited about it.”

The new contracts will run over the next two to three years, with about half the new business in the United States and half in international markets, Ramirez said.

Much of the new business involves supporting customers’ electrification of applications.

The company specializes in hydraulic and electro-mechanical components.

“We’ve done a lot of work developing a set of products and technologies that help our customers electrify and automate their vehicles,” Ramirez said.

The company’s capital spending “is a little more biased toward overseas” plants, primarily because the company is tripling the size of its plant in India, Ramirez said. Husco is expanding that plant from 40,000 square feet to 120,000 square feet and expects to complete the project in early 2025, he said.

“They’ve been a major beneficiary of U.S. and Europe trade disputes with China,” Ramirez said of the plant in India.

The 250 jobs the company is adding will be evenly split between domestic and international plants. Husco’s Waukesha plant will see the largest portion of new jobs in the United States, where the company also has plants in Whitewater and in Iowa, Ramirez said.

Husco is one of the largest privately held manufacturers based in southeast Wisconsin.

THE BUSINESS JOURNALS

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MENTORING MATTERS

The influence of The Bartolotta Restaurants is being felt in kitchens in Milwaukee and beyond

Until 2003, Zak Baker’s life path was heading toward the music industry. Soon after he finished music recording school, though, that path took a turn as he leaned into a culinary career he had been building since he was a teenager. ¶ He hadn’t planned to pursue it – and then The Bartolotta Restaurants hooked him. ¶ After finishing school, he came to Brookfield to figure out his life’s next steps and took a job as a line cook at Ristorante Bartolotta – which was the start of a decade he would spend in various chef positions with the company. A career rooted in his early days as a dishwasher and busser led to him becoming a sous chef for the Inn at Cedar Crossing Restaurant in Sturgeon Bay by the time he was 20. ¶

“I wasn’t even really sure I wanted to keep cooking. I kept thinking I was going to move to Madison just because I had more music stuff going on in Madison,” he said. “And finally, you know, just over time, (Bartolotta) just kind of hooked me.”

Baker came away from the experience with a deeper understanding of kitchen techniques and Italian cuisine, but it was the company “teaching people stuff other than cooking” – such as administration inside a kitchen, understanding financials and managing employees – that provided a foundation for the future.

With that, he also came away with enough knowledge to eventually open a restaurant of his own.

He’s not the only one.

Milwaukee’s restaurant scene is at a high point, with local chefs getting national attention and their operations winning awards. For many of those chefs, the knowledge they gained as former employees of The Bartolotta Restaurants not only in



BY LINDA SPICE

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the kitchen but in the restaurateur side of the business has been pivotal, launching some of the Milwaukee area’s top restaurants, including The Diplomat, Lupi & Iris, Ca’Lucchenzo and others, widening the city’s culinary landscape.

“There weren’t really any other restaurant groups like Bartolotta in Milwaukee that were also kind of like an incubator training ground sort of thing,” said Baker, who worked for The Bartolotta Restaurants as sous chef at Ristorante Bartolotta and executive sous chef and chef de cuisine at Lake Park Bistro.

Baker and his wife, Sarah Baker, also a former Bartolotta employee on the corporate side of the operations, trace some of the success of their Wauwatosa-based restaurant Ca’Lucchenzo, which they opened in 2019, to the lessons they each learned while working for The Bartolotta Restaurants.

“The training I have from Bartolotta ... all of that still comes to show

here,” Zak Baker said. “If somebody walked in from Bartolotta, I feel like they would be able to pick up that event service because it’s probably pretty close to the same as what we used to do.”

Paying it forward

Paul Bartolotta and his brother, Joe Bartolotta, opened their first restaurant, Ristorante Bartolotta dal 1993, in Wauwatosa just over three decades ago. Joe Bartolotta developed the family business for years along with former director of operations John Wise, former chefs recalled, while Paul Bartolotta continued his work as a chef outside of the state, returning to the city to develop and design the kitchens and to develop the menus and launch them.

Paul Bartolotta brought with him a history as a chef with culinary experiences in New York, Italy, Chicago and Las Vegas, establishing a name for himself with two James Beard Foundation awards and other accolades during his career while also appreciating that inside a kitchen where meals are made, mentorship matters.

“That’s how you pay it forward,” said Bartolotta, who transformed over the years from mentee to mentor.

Bartolotta said he recognizes the company’s influence as former employees transition their experience within his family’s organization to their own restaurants.

“I see it because when I go to the restaurants ... I see some of the table settings, I see many of the dishes, I see many things that have carried over from what we do in our company. And that makes me proud,” Bartolotta said.

Over the past 30 years, the family business has built a portfolio of 17 restaurants and catering facilities that include a wide range of concepts including fine dining, upscale-casual, an upscale food hall, a pizzeria and quick-casual.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Bartolotta harkens back to memories of his own chef training and mentors who helped strengthen his culinary path as he continues to grow The Bartolotta Restaurants and those working with the company.

“My obligation is to give everything I can, teach everything that I can possibly teach, hold nothing back, but give every bit of information and experience. You have to share it,” Paul Bartolotta said. “And when you share it, you see their personal growth and in the end you’re investing in them. But you’re making your business better because you’re mentoring people along the way.”

Tapping talent

The connections between the restaurant behemoth and those making their own way in the industry go beyond training.

Andrew Koser and Lauren D’Amico Yorio were happy working with the restaurant group – he as executive chef at The Rumpus Room, and she as a sous chef at Mr. B’s – but that time ended when restaurants shut down during the 2020 pandemic. The two chefs partnered to launch A to Z Dinners, offering “restaurant quality, chef-made, home-delivered meals.”

As restaurants began to open again, the partners continued on their entrepreneurial path rather than return to their jobs with Bartolotta, but the company wasn’t done with its former chefs yet. The Bartolotta Restaurants reached out to A to Z Dinners to ask if the business might be interested in taking on some of its customers requesting smaller catering gigs.

“To be referred from Bartolotta is a pretty big deal, because they have standards. They have expectations,” Koser said. “They wouldn’t refer somebody if they didn’t truly believe in them. I think that was one of the biggest honors when we first started to be a part of that.”

As Paul Bartolotta and his brother developed their family business, they also relied on the talents and skills of others to help train and build the Bartolotta ranks, noting, “once we hit our stride, I would let our chefs take it. And that’s sort of the web that comes down,” as the chefs themselves – such as Adam Siegel, who now co-owns Lupi & Iris, and Juan Urbieta, executive chef at Ristorante Bartolotta dal

Clockwise:
Andrew Koser
and Lauren
D’Amico
Yorio of A to Z
Dinners

Dane Baldwin
of The Diplomat

Paul (left) and
the late Joe
Bartolotta,
of The
Bartolotta
Restaurants



1993 – mentored others inside their respective kitchens.

When Lynn Chisholm started in an executive catering chef position with The Bartolotta Restaurants, she had about six years of experience in the industry. When the group readied to launch a second Ristorante Bartolotta on Milwaukee’s North Downer Avenue, Joe Bartolotta tapped Chisholm to help.

“He’s like, ‘I know you really want to open your own restaurant someday. Do you want to practice with my money? I think this would be a good fit for you,’” Chisholm said. “He let me be a part of every part of opening

a restaurant for my personal growth.”

She came away knowing much more about the business, managing costs and managing staff.

“I think it just made my next step that much easier,” said Chisholm, who opened The Paddock Club restaurant in Elkhart Lake in 2007.

The business of food

Now at the helm of the family company after his brother Joe’s passing in 2019, Paul Bartolotta said he continues to advocate for opportunities for employees to rise if they want them. A dishwasher could become a prep cook, who could become a line cook.

Others rise through the ranks of chef de partie, chef de tournant, sous chef, chef de cuisine or executive sous chef and executive chef, Bartolotta said.

“I think that our culture has always been about mentorship, development, inclusion and giving people a chance, but it really depends on them,” Bartolotta said.

Employees are provided company financial statements as they move into leadership positions within Bartolotta restaurants and kitchens, learning and discussing “what’s working, what isn’t, what the obstacles were.”

“Was it bad weather? Are they



PHOTOS BY KENNY YOO | MJB

short-staffed? We measure guests' feedback. We measure rewards. We measure revenue, profit," Bartolotta said. "We're not driven by profit, but without profitability, you can't improve the business. So you have to make good, solid, sound business decisions."

Getting that insight into how to run a restaurant beyond just making great food has paid off.

Dane Baldwin, a James Beard award-winning chef, previously worked as a line cook at Bartolotta's Bacchus, sous chef at Harbor House and chef de cuisine and executive chef at Mr. B's steakhouse, where he

"The financials were an open book, and that was probably one of the greatest lessons I learned."

Dane Baldwin,
The Diplomat

stayed until 2017, when he opened The Diplomat in Milwaukee. He valued the company's willingness to share its financials, teaching chefs the administrative side of the culinary business.

"The financials were an open book, and that was probably one of the greatest lessons I learned from working at Harbor House," said Baldwin, who employs 15 people at The Diplomat. "So when it did come time for me to open my own business ... it was not hard for me to explain to anyone whether my intentions were financially viable."

Said Bartolotta: "I think we've

made very good business people, and those that have truly paid attention when they leave us, they're formidable competitors."

The goal is to let employees "kind of stretch their own wings and learn how to develop themselves in their own leadership and management style," said Megan McKenna, director of specialty concepts and new project development lead for The Bartolotta Restaurants, who has been with the company for 17 years.

"And then you just say, all right, 'Who am I? Who am I looking to next? Who's the person that's going to get me ready?'" she said. ☞

BUILDING A LAUNCHPAD FOR MILWAUKEE AND BEYOND

The Bartolotta influence lives in restaurants inside and outside of Milwaukee as former chefs and other employees build on their experiences. Former Bartolotta employees who have forged their own culinary paths include:

CHEF VINCENZO BETULIA

Naples, Florida

- ▶ Osteria Tulia, Italian cuisine
- ▶ Bar Tulia and Bar Tulia Mercato, two locations of Italian-influenced pub with craft beer
- ▶ The French, French cuisine

CHEFS BRIANNA AND NICK KAPHEIM

Appleton, Wisconsin

- ▶ Spats Restaurant, American fare

CHEF ANDREW WILSON

Cedarburg, Wisconsin

- ▶ Brandywine, Wisconsin-influenced dishes with handmade pasta

PASTRY CHEF ALLIE FISHER

Fox Point, Wisconsin

- ▶ Matilda Bakehouse, pastries, desserts and cakes

CHEFS JACKIE WOODS AND PARIS DREIBELBIS

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- ▶ Brute pizza, featuring hand-tossed, sourdough crust pizzas

MARY JANE SANCHEZ

FEEDING HER ‘CREATIVE MONSTER’

BY LINDA SPICE | lspice@bizjournals.com

Mary Jane Sanchez found a professional niche in the food and beverage industry early in her career.

Her design skills provided opportunities to work on interiors with local franchisees from the likes of McDonald’s, Burger King, Culver’s and others. Growing up with her family in Milwaukee, Sanchez said, “I was always the artist.”

During the 30-plus years in which she has worked with hundreds of clients in the restaurant and hospitality industries, Sanchez’s design skills further developed with marketing, sales and digital strategies that would help her to build her career, with an eye particularly on startups.

“Sometimes you just get pulled in a direction, and that direction was hospitality,” Sanchez said.

Sanchez’s early opportunities to work with restaurants, franchises of national companies and local bars came through her contract design firm, Design Interprise.

After the birth of her youngest child, she transitioned her career to marketing, which allowed her to work from home. She further engaged with social media and digital marketing and launched her next business, Dynamismo Marketing & Events.

In 2014, that grew into her current business, WurkHub Digital Marketing, which operates out of an office in downtown Waukesha.

MARY JANE SANCHEZ

Title: President

Company: WurkHub Digital Marketing

Hometown: Milwaukee

Residence: Waukesha

Education: Associate degree in commercial art and advertisement from Milwaukee Area Technical College; associate degree in interior design and drafting from Waukesha County Technical College

Family: Three adult children

Most unique bloody mary ingredient ever tasted: Thai curry

As the president of WurkHub, Sanchez leans into her creativity in guiding, consulting and mentoring restaurant owners through branding, website design, search engine optimization, social media and digital marketing.

“What’s really important with restaurants is creating a destination so that people will say, ‘Have you been to that one? Have you been to this one?’ And they like to go there just to get away,” she said.

That focus has earned her a reputation in the industry.

When Robert Blask took over as chef and owner of Mia’s restaurant at 800 Clinton St. in Waukesha more than two years ago, other business owners in town told him, “You have to meet Mary Jane,” he said.

He said she has provided guidance with marketing his business, and she also helped to design T-shirts for Mia’s. Blask said he relies on Sanchez’s knowledge in the restaurant industry to help grow his business. In addition, he said he turns to Sanchez for mentorship, based on the years of experience she brings from the field, noting she is “very one on one, very hands-on, very personable” with her clients.

“She is someone who really cares about her community. It’s pretty evident when you work with her,” Blask said.

Sanchez has involved herself in the community beyond her work with clients by serving in board



positions through the years.

Those include serving as the vice president of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, a member of the state of Wisconsin Recycling Market Development Board, the vice president of La Casa de Esperanza in

Waukesha and others.

Sanchez also speaks at restaurant-related events and shows, she said. She was the founder of the Social Media Club of Milwaukee.

“I am a believer in ... doing what’s good for the community,” she said.



KENNY YOO | MBI

“It’s just who I am as a person.”

With her primary focus on the restaurant industry, the shutdown during the Covid-19 pandemic that forced many to pivot to new business strategies affected Sanchez as well.

She sought opportunities to work with other fields and picked up clients such as glass companies, lighting companies and contractors that were catering to customers forced to stay at home.

At one time, Sanchez had five

employees, but she now is a one-person operation. She outsources some work to a web developer, she said.

Sanchez is juggling fewer – about 50 – clients than the 200-plus she had just two years ago, she said. Some of those that remain are Mia’s,

“

What’s really important with restaurants is creating a destination so that people will say, ‘Have you been to that one?’”

Mary Jane Sanchez,
WurkHub Digital Marketing

Dave’s Restaurant, Sweet Dreams and the newly opened Joey’s, all in downtown Waukesha. She also works with Growlers in Wauwatosa, which is owned by one of her three children who also found a career in the restaurant and bar industry, Jason Growel.

Part of downsizing her business is by design as she shifts her focus to developing other side projects that include an online guide to all things bloody mary under wiscomary.com, covering Wisconsin-based food and beverage items – such as beer, alcohol, meats, cheeses, spices, seasonings and more – that go into making the drink, as well as sharing recipes and noting bloody mary-related events around the state.

As Sanchez continues work with her WurkHub clients, she’s also enjoying traveling the state, meeting with makers of bloody mary drinks and working to share their business stories online.

As part of those conversations, she also works the other business she is building at foodandbeverage merch.com and discusses with restaurant and bar owners how to better promote their endeavors through menus, pens, coasters, placemats and more.

“I can still stay in the food and beverage industry but not sit at my desk,” she said. “I love traveling the state of Wisconsin. I can still feed the creative monster of mine and go from there.”

Mary Jane Sanchez evolved over three decades of design, marketing and sales experience to help restaurants and bars build their brands and their customer bases.

Milwaukee Area-Based Minority-Owned Businesses

RANKED BY TOTAL REVENUE FOR LATEST FISCAL YEAR

	Business name Website	Address Phone	Revenue	Local staff	Total staff	Type of business	Principal owner(s)
1	Husco International ① husco.com	2239 Pewaukee Road Waukesha, WI 53188 262-513-4200	\$540 million	695	1,591	Manufacturer and designer of hydraulic, electrohydraulic controls for off-highway and automotive applications	Agustin Ramirez and family
2	Fair Oaks Foods ② fairoaksfoods.com	7600 95th St. Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158 262-947-0320	\$363.26 million	286	288	Producer of custom meat products	Michael Thompson
3	Potawatomi Ventures fka Potawatomi Business Development Corp. ③ potawatomiventures.com	833 E. Michigan St. Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-290-9490	\$261.5 million	97	679	The economic development and income diversification business of the Forest County Potawatomi Community	Forest County Potawatomi Community
4	Oneida ESC Group ⑤ oescgroup.com	1033 N. Mayfair Road Wauwatosa, WI 53226 414-257-4200	\$116 million	123	535	Native American, tribally owned provider of engineering, design, construction management, environmental, natural resources, technology and professional services	Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
5	El Rey Holdings Inc. ⑥ elreyfoods.com	916 S. Cesar E. Chavez Drive Milwaukee, WI 53204 414-643-1640	\$102 million	440	440	Manufacturer and distributor of Hispanic foods including corn tortillas; grocer	Ernesto Villarreal, Criselda Villarreal and their children
6	Greenfire Management Services LLC ④ greenfire.com	3215 W. State St. Milwaukee, WI 53208 414-290-9400	\$96.5 million	37	50	Construction management firm that provides preconstruction and construction oversight services	Forest County Potawatomi Community
7	Wissen Infotech Inc. ⑨ wissen.com	2325 Parklawn Drive Waukesha, WI 53186 262-510-2900	\$40.32 million	2	2	Global end-to-end solution provider in banking and financial services, telecom, health care, manufacturing and energy verticals; building enterprise systems, implementing a digital strategy, gaining a competitive advantage	Uendra Rachupally, Subhakar Kurly, Reddy Earasi, Madhav Vijjali
8	JCP Construction LLC ⑭ jcp-construction.com	1849 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Milwaukee, WI 53212 414-372-7300	\$34 million	75	75	African American-owned general contractor offering full-range of services including pre-construction, general contracting and construction management	James Phelps, Jalyn Phelps, Clifton Phelps
9	CMRignite ⑦ cmrignite.com	250 E. Wisconsin Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-247-9898	\$20 million	40	60	Full-service cause and behavior change marketing communications agency that specializes in reaching underserved populations	Jacqueline Moore
10	Quintec Integration Inc. ⑩ quintecconveyor.com	1600 Paramount Drive Waukesha, WI 53186 262-746-6898	\$20 million	21	33	Full-service material handling system integrator that engineers, installs and supports virtually any automation project	James Deppetolo Jr.
11	Mantz Automation Inc. ⑩ mantzautomation.com	1630 Innovation Way Hartford, WI 53027 262-673-7560	\$18.4 million	84	89	Tool and die company specializing in plastic injection molds; also short-run specialty machining, sample injection molds and small-run plastic injection molding for customers	Denise Mantz
12	MARS IT Corp. dba MARS Solutions Group ⑧ marssg.com	20900 Swenson Drive Waukesha, WI 53186 414-405-1412	\$18 million	265	300	Customized talent solutions company; attracting, creating, engaging tech talent	Rashi Arora Khosla
13	W.I.S. Logistics ⑫ wislogistics.com	5600 S. Westridge Drive New Berlin, WI 53151 262-797-9670	\$14.8 million	15	15	Logistics provider specializing in truckload and less-than-load (LTL) shipments and includes a 4PL division allowing a business to outsource entire supply chain management and logistics to one external service provider	Jonathan Teraoka
14	Thomas A. Mason Co. Inc. ⑬ tamason.com	1501 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Milwaukee, WI 53212 414-271-6688	\$14.03 million	55	55	Painting, commercial painting and flooring contractor	Thomas Mason, Steven Macaione
15	Gordon Solutions LLC ⑰ gordonsolutionsllc.com	7500 N. Teutonia Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53209 262-457-7873	\$11.95 million	21	21	Commercial construction company specializing in historic windows, doors, carpentry and glazing	Donald Gordon Jr.
16	Rinka ⑮ rinka.com	756 N. Milwaukee St. Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-431-8101	\$9 million	43	48	Design collective specializing in creative problem-solving and innovative placemaking to create meaningful experiences for communities	Matt Rinka, Chad Griswold, Steve Morales
17	Superior Support Resources Inc. ⑯ SSRTotalIT.com	405 N. Calhoun Road Brookfield, WI 53005 262-784-9772	\$8.4 million	34	35	Helps small to mid-size organizations compete globally and thrive by providing technology and resources to advance, protect, support infrastructure environments; designs, implements and proactively manages information technology strategies	Sarit Singhal
18	Smart Spaces * smartspacewi.com	W222 N630 Cheaney Road Waukesha, WI 53186 262-955-6333	\$8.1 million	22	22	Delivers customizable audio-visual solutions to optimize flexibility and productivity in the workplace; spaces stay connected and adaptable to changing needs; designing, engineering and implementing a single-room technology solution or an entire building deployment	Victor Hernandez
19	Diamond Discs International ⑰ DiamonDiscs.Com	9300 W. Heather Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53224 414-543-4545	\$7.7 million	10	10	General construction project management firm and light assembly manufacturer and distributor of construction tool equipment including hand-held and power saws and tools, safety and personal protection equipment, professional-grade diamond-edge cutting tools	Ugo Nwagbaraocha
20	SysLogic Inc. ⑱ syslogicinc.com	375 Bishops Way Brookfield, WI 53005 262-780-0380	\$7.3 million	53	60	Information technology consulting and services firm delivering solutions that leverage leading-edge technology and sound business processes; extending clients' range, reach, and value of information technology in their organizations	Tina Chang
21	MWH Law Group LLP ㉑ mwhlawgroup.com	735 N. Water St. Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-436-0353	\$6.83 million	19	31	Certified minority-owned law firm offering a wide array of legal services to a variety of companies and public entities, including small family-run enterprises, governmental agencies and Fortune 100 businesses	Emery Harlan, Kerrie Murphy
22	K. Singh & Associates Inc. ㉒ ksinghengineering.com	3636 N. 124th St. Wauwatosa, WI 53222 262-821-1171	\$6.2 million	28	30	Civil, environmental and transportation engineering firm	Pratap Singh, Ajay Singh
23	Crawford Evaluation Group ㉓ crawfordevaluationgroup.com	20855 Watertown Road Waukesha, WI 53186 262-303-4907	\$5.76 million	23	24	Medical legal consulting firm serving worker's compensation and liability claims communities providing medical expert services to negotiate contested and/or litigated claims	David Crawford
24	Middle West Manufacturing ㉔ middlewestmfg.com	N93 W16591 Falls Pkwy. Menomonee Falls, WI 53052 262-251-8760	\$5.55 million	22	22	Full-service metal fabricator with capabilities including plate rolling, brake forming and pipe bending	Kam Soni

ABOUT THE LIST: Information on The List was obtained from businesses that are at least 50% ethnic minority-owned and are based in the Milwaukee seven-county area. Only those companies that submitted the required information by press deadline were considered for inclusion. Circled numbers indicate prior rank. * indicates not ranked in previous year.

T H E L I S T

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Join Milwaukee Business Journal at our November Power Breakfast, featuring James A. “Jimmy” Haslam, Chairman and Managing Partner of the Haslam Sports Group (HSG), including a controlling interest in the Milwaukee Bucks.

TIME: 7:30–9:00am | **DATE:** Thursday, November 14, 2024

PLACE: The Pfister Hotel

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TIME: 11:30AM–1:00PM | **DATE:** Thursday, December 12, 2024

PLACE: The Pfister Hotel

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Senior Process Engineer for Henkel US Operations Corporation in Oak Creek, WI, to be responsible for scoping, designing, installing and implementing manufacturing processes, equipment, and plant operations used in manufacturing plants in North America. Requires: Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering or related field (willing to accept foreign education equivalent) + 5 yrs. of experience in chemical process engineering for manufacturing batch operations. Position requires 50% domestic travel. Submit resume to Careers.NA@henkel.com. Reference Position Number: 001933

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General News

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Gordon Solutions LLC, a window and door supplier and installer reforming Milwaukee's most historic and iconic buildings since 2010, has successfully brought life back into Milwaukee's skyline. By partnering with like-minded manufacturers such as Quaker and Marvin, we refine the elegance of Milwaukee's historic windows. As a Native-American owned and operated company, we see this task as not only a pleasure but a responsibility to hold these traditions in architecture.

We also strive to complement Milwaukee's ancient architectural beauty with new construction. As a supplier of A-list glazing manufacturers such as Kawneer and Trulite, we hope to build lasting monuments of wonder that remain competitive with our architectural ancestors.



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Greenfire the Tribally-Owned Business of the Year in 2024. In 2025, Greenfire will celebrate 15 years of service and looks forward to the next seven generations and beyond.

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Liz Syrrakos

Plunkett Raysich Architects LLP

Director of Client Relations

Plunkett Raysich Architects, LLP (PRA), a leading architecture and interior design firm based in Milwaukee, WI, is pleased to announce the hiring of Liz Syrrakos as their Director of Client Relations. With over two decades of experience in architectural operations, marketing, and client services, Liz brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to PRA. In her new role, Syrrakos will oversee PRA's internal and external marketing strategies, and market expansion initiatives in addition to working with clients and studio partners and leading the firm's client relations team.

Scott Kramer, Managing Partner at PRA, stated, "We are thrilled to have found someone of Liz's caliber to lead our client relations team. As we continue to expand our services and geographic presence Liz will play a critical role. We are excited to have Liz take our client relations team to the next level!"



BANKING & FINANCIAL SERVICES

New Hire



Marc Hill

Borgman Capital

Managing Director - Portfolio Management

Experienced business leader Marc Hill has joined Borgman Capital as Managing Director - Portfolio Management, with responsibility for value creation within the firm's portfolio of operating companies. Most recently, Marc served for seven years as chief executive officer of Milwaukee pet food company Stella and Chewy's. Prior to that, he served as President and CEO of outdoor recreation equipment supplier Coleman. He will be based in Portland, Oregon, where he resides with his wife and daughter.

BANKING & FINANCIAL SERVICES

New Hire



Dawn Griesbach

Waukesha State Bank

Vice President - Commercial Banking Officer

Waukesha State Bank is thrilled to announce the appointment of Dawn Griesbach as Vice President - Commercial Banking Officer. Dawn brings nearly 30 years of comprehensive financial experience to Waukesha State Bank, with a distinguished career that spans both the business and retail banking sectors. In her new role, she will be responsible for prospecting, developing and managing commercial loan portfolios, ensuring that local businesses have access to the resources they need to thrive.

HEALTH CARE

Promotion



Sarah Koehn

Meta House

Director of Philanthropy + Marketing

Meta House, a leading nonprofit substance use disorder treatment program for women and families, is thrilled to announce that Sarah Koehn has been appointed as the agency's Director of Philanthropy and Marketing. With over a decade of experience at Meta House, Sarah most recently served as Dir. of Operations, where she oversaw key business functions and, in collaboration with CEO Valerie Vidal, led the development of Project Horizon, Meta House's \$34.5M new campus on Milwaukee's Near West Side.

LAW

New Hire



Hanna R. Kolberg

von Briesen & Roper s.c.

Shareholder

von Briesen is pleased to welcome Hanna R. Kolberg to its Milwaukee office. As a Shareholder in the Government Law Group and Real Estate Section, Hanna focuses her government law practice on advising municipalities and counties on governance, administrative proceedings, public records, open meetings, public policy, litigation, Police and Fire Commission hearings and collective bargaining. She focuses her real estate practice on property tax assessment litigation and eminent domain matters.

LAW

New Hire



Avery J. Mayne

von Briesen & Roper s.c.

Shareholder

von Briesen is pleased to announce Avery J. Mayne has joined the Firm as a Shareholder in its Milwaukee office. As a member of the Trusts and Estates Section, Avery focuses her practice on elder and special needs law matters, including advising clients on asset protection from long term care costs; eligibility and appeals for public benefits; and adult guardianship and protective action litigation. She is certified as an Elder Law Attorney (CELA) by the National Elder Law Foundation.

LAW

New Hire



Aleksandar Prpa

von Briesen & Roper s.c.

Associate

von Briesen welcomes Aleksandar Prpa as an Associate to its Litigation and Risk Management Practice Group. Alex focuses his practice on a variety of litigation matters including general litigation, insurance coverage, toxic tort, real estate and municipal prosecutions. He is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Bar Association and the Wisconsin Defense Counsel.

LAW

New Hire



Derik P. Rush

von Briesen & Roper s.c.

Associate

Derik P. Rush joins the Milwaukee office of von Briesen & Roper, s.c. As an Associate in von Briesen's Litigation and Risk Management Practice Group, he focuses his litigation practice on commercial, business, construction, real estate and water/riparian rights issues. Derik is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee Bar Association.

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Milwaukee Public Records is a weekly summary and limited display of public records and legal filings collected from courthouses, government offices and other federal, state and municipal online data portals covering Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Waukesha and Washington counties.

SEE ALL THE DATA

Listings for each category may vary from week to week because of information availability and space constraints. To see all of the public records from every category collected for the Milwaukee area, visit bit.ly/MKERecords. In addition, the scorecard at right tracks records for the entire calendar year to provide a global view of the key categories collected.

THE SECTIONS

Milwaukee Public Records is a limited view of records collected weekly by American City Business Journals, parent company of *Milwaukee Business Journal*.

VARIABLES & LIMITATIONS

Records by category and count will vary by week due to normal volatility in recording volume, information availability, filing schedules and access constraints regulated by each public-filing entity.

QUESTIONS

To learn more about the collection methods, coverage areas and usage restrictions related to American City Business Journals, please contact us at 877-593-4157.

M B J scorecard

A weekly and year-to-date summary of public records collected by Milwaukee Business Journal. For a complete list of public records, visit bit.ly/MKERecords.

	Bankruptcies ▲ 2	Federal Tax Liens ▲ 7	Judgments ■ NC	Lawsuits ▼ 1	Real Estate Transactions ▼ 4	Commercial Real Estate Transactions ▲ 7	Residential Real Estate Transactions ▲ 6	State Tax Liens ▲ 56
Current Week	2	7	15	39	141	7	134	69
Week Prior	0	0	15	40	145	17	128	13
2024	20	110	377	1,789	5,014	579	4,435	834
2023	28	30	230	1,527	4,511	653	3,858	1,379

NOTE: RECORDS COLLECTED FROM JAN. 1 THROUGH THE CURRENT REPORTING PERIOD

Top Liens

The following includes a sampling of the top federal, and state liens collected by American City Business Journals.

Federal Tax Liens Filed

Dollar value of all federal tax liens collected this week.

\$3,712,492

Total new federal tax liens collected this week: 7

Federal Tax Liens Released

Dollar value of all released federal tax liens recorded this week.

\$70,511

Total released federal tax liens this week: 3

State Tax Liens Filed

Dollar value of all state tax liens collected this week.

\$1,291,708

Total new state tax liens collected this week: 69

State Tax Liens Released

Dollar value of all released state tax liens recorded this week.

\$1,476,664

Total released state tax liens this week: 19

Name: Aurora Pharmacy Inc., Type: (corporate), Amount: \$305,595

Name: Pilot Project Brewing Milwaukee LLC, Type: (liquor), Amount: \$278,955

Name: Aurora Pharmacy Inc., Type: (corporate), Amount: \$267,796

Name: Aurora Pharmacy Inc., Type: (corporate), Amount: \$238,805

Name: London Luxury LLC, Type: (withholding), Amount: \$150,461

Name: Jack Kupper, Type: (unemployment), Amount: \$26,610

Name: Damieon A. James, Type: (unemployment), Amount: \$20,510

Transactions

Real Estate Transactions - Commercial

A sampling of new commercial deed transactions collected by American City Business Journals.

SELLER'S NAME	BUYER'S NAME	ADDRESS	AMOUNT	DOCUMENT NUMBER
J&R Investment Group Inc. fka Snak-Sales Inc.	PKG Holdings LLC	3113-3115 E. Layton Ave., Cudahy 53110	\$3,214,421	11456244
Beerline Crossing LLC	IC Holdings 1A LLC	4160 N. Port Washington Rd., Glendale 53212	\$3,200,000	11456925
3LP Slinger LLC	Sagewind Slinger LLC	Hwy. 60 and Hetzel Way, Slinger	\$2,400,000	1602920
Prohealth Care Inc.	Riverwood II LLC	N17 W24300 Riverwood Dr., Pewaukee	\$2,200,000	4787734
The American Bottling Co.	3131 Phillips Ave. LLC	3131 Phillips Ave./Packard Ave. (vacant), Mt. Pleasant 53403	\$815,400	2687141
Rachwal-Dickmann Holdings Inc.	G&R LLC	2235 S. 170th St., New Berlin 53151	\$790,000	4787640
The Drilling Restaurant Group LLC	Sussex Group LLC	5651 Broad St., Greendale 53129	\$725,000	11456983

SOURCE: ICE MORTGAGE TECHNOLOGY

Lawsuits Filed

These civil lawsuits in Milwaukee-area courts are filed against businesses and business owners and seek amounts exceeding \$10,000. Information is listed by case and case number.

PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT	SUIT TYPE	JURISDICTION
Town of Grafton/Lester A. Bartel Jr.	Team Property Management LLC/John Niemczyk		Ozaukee County
Tiffany Hader/Jeffrey Hader	Erie Insurance Co.	contract	Washington County
Rex Hamilton	Serial 1 Cycle Co. LLC/Life Electric Vehicles Holdings Inc./Robert Provost	contract	Waukesha County
Bradley Winquist/Sally Winquist	American Family Insurance Co.	contract	Waukesha County
Nyssa Bulkes	Allstate Vehicle and Property Insurance Co.	contract	Waukesha County
Sheveland Properties III LLC	IMT Insurance Co.	contract	Waukesha County
Joseph Property Development LLC	Demark's LLC	contract	Waukesha County
Daniel Waters	PKS Building Systems LLC/Paul Kosmicki	contract	Waukesha County
Mark Strong	Travelers Property Casualty Insurance Co.	contract	Waukesha County
Joseph Wagner et al.	West Bend Mutual Insurance Co.	contract	Waukesha County
Karen Martinelli	Husch Blackwell LLP	contract	Milwaukee County
Champion Power Equipment Inc.	Scott Stefaniak/Harbor Freight Tools USA Inc.	declaratory judgment	Ozaukee County
Champion Power Equipment Inc.	Scott Stefaniak/Harbor Freight Tools USA Inc.	declaratory judgment	Waukesha County
Jesse Duquiane/Tian Newman	Johnathan Dorsey/dba RWG Inc./Roth Whitman Group	intentional tort	Washington County
Remington Lee Gietzel/Kathleen Gietzel/Bradlee Gietzel	Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital Inc./Seema Menon MD/Anna McCormick MD et al.	medical malpractice/Chapter 655	Racine County

A doggone good time

More than 400 guests gathered Oct. 19 at the Pfister Hotel in downtown Milwaukee for the Wisconsin Humane Society's largest fundraiser of the year. Dubbed the Paws & Claws Gala, the event helped raise more than \$550,000 for the nonprofit organization's operations. The Humane Society, which has campuses throughout southeast Wisconsin and in Door County and Green Bay, was founded in 1879 and operates a series of animal shelters. The organization says it serves more than 40,000 animals each year.



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Top left photo: 1. The annual event raises money for the Wisconsin Humane Society; 2. Jonah Turner, of Molson Coors, and his wife Serra; 3. Tim Schneider, of Bank Five Nine, and his wife Heather; 4. Members of the Milwaukee Fire Department made an appearance; 5. Alison Hanrahan, of Molson Coors; 6. Marisol Diaz Acevedo, of Visit Milwaukee; 7. Owen Hawver, of Northwestern Mutual; 8. Diana Gutiérrez, of WISN-TV (Channel 12), emceed the event; 9. Auctioneer Dan Pronley; 10. Emily Phillips, of Baird.

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