

INVESTMENT - PROSPERITY - INNOVATION -  
25  
GROWTH - SYNERGY

# Silver Anniversary Gala

Celebrating Economic Development in Michigan City, Indiana



ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

MICHIGAN CITY, IN



## *An Anniversary 25 years in the Making*

While our logo, name, leadership and goals have changed over the years, one thing has remained the same: our mission to make the most of what Michigan City has to offer. At the core of the Economic Development Corporation Michigan City is our belief that we can spark the positivity needed to cultivate change and momentum for all of our community members who live, work or visit our city and the region.

We were founded in 1997 as the Michigan City Economic Development Corporation by former Michigan City Mayor Sheila Brillson along with the city's Chamber of Commerce and key business leaders: Michael Brennan, Phillip Sprague, Terry Hearst, Bob Schaefer and former postmaster, Roger McKee. This team put together our organization's bylaws and strategic goals for the initial years of our existence. Brillson was our first chair until June 2003, and Tony Rodriguez was our first executive director.

Originally, the cornerstones that were created to guide our team included: Organizational Development, Product Development, External Development, Retention & Expansion and Workforce Development. By having these tenets as a framework, our leadership and board members were able to follow a cohesive approach to building a strong foundation in the development of Michigan City. There were many events that started over the years to help carry out these goals, including jobs fairs, our Business Investment Awards and Made in LaPorte County.

We have also strengthened our partnerships with city, county, industry, business and nonprofits leaders to ensure that we are addressing all aspects of life here in our community. Through new and existing partnerships, we have pinpointed active ways to focus on the needs of our diverse population – from studying how to tackle food deserts to developing our future workforce through the Compressed Air Academy.

As we celebrate our Silver Anniversary in 2022, we are still serving as a resource for entrepreneurs, promoting educational opportunities, attracting and retaining various businesses and development projects and uniting leaders from all sectors. We will continue to move toward progress and change through the application of our current Strategic Plan, which includes workforce development and talent attraction, economic modernization, placemaking and aggressively telling our city's story.

We have always understood that quality of life and economic development go hand-in-hand, and this concept has driven our varied teams, mission and goals forward since the beginning. We are looking forward to many more years to come as we strive to work hard and dedicate our efforts to growth and development every day.

## *Tonight's Events*



Scan for more!

- 5:00 Awardees Photo Session
  - 5:30 Cocktails & Connections
  - 6:15 Welcome & Awards Presentation
    - Master of Ceremonies — Ric Federighi — WIMS
    - 2022 Milestone Awards
    - Special Milestone Recognition
    - 2018– 2021 Business Investment Awards
    - 2018– 2021 Project of the Year Awards
  - 6:55 Dinner
  - 7:30 Title Sponsor Commentary
    - Craig Dwight, CEO & President, Horizon Bank
    - EDCMC Video Spotlight
    - Toast to EDCMC Silver Anniversary
  - 7:40 Phoenix Awards
  - 7:50 Leadership Awards
  - 8:10 Distinguished Service Awards
  - 8:30 Closing Remarks
- Music provided by the Michigan City Chamber Music Festival

*Thank you to our Title Sponsor*





## Milestone Awardees

Milestone Awards honor businesses in our region that have bolstered their foundations by remaining here and helping propel our economic development momentum. As we are catching up on our award ceremonies, these milestones have been reached between 2018 and 2021.

### 10 years

Hearthside Food Solutions  
Shady Creek Winery  
Williams Dedicated  
Mikropor America, Inc.  
JMJ Talent Solutions  
Current Midwest

### 15 years

PowerDrive, LLC

### 20 years

Dekker Vacuum/Atlas Copco  
Stauffer Glove & Safety

### 30 years

Marquiss Electric Inc.  
CLH, CPAs & Consultants  
Packaging Group

### 40 years

Meyer Glass & Paint

### 90 years

NIPSCO

## Special Milestone Awardees

### 25 Years

Fas-Pak Inc  
Midwest Wheelcoaters  
Harbour Trust & Investment  
Management Company  
Central States Manufacturing  
Diamond Manufacturing  
T&T Machining & Fabricating  
Ocularist Ltd

### 50 Years

Paladin  
Reprographic Arts Planroom

### 75 Years

Guardian Couplings  
Sanlo, Inc.  
Woodruff & Sons, Inc

### 100 Years

Peters + Marske  
Midtown Barbers  
Blocksom & Co.  
Tonn & Blank Construction

## Business Investment Awardees

Investment Awards are in recognition of companies that have continued to invest in Michigan City and beyond and provide valuable contributions to the economic development of LaPorte County.

### 2018

Centier Bank  
Holiday Inn Express  
Big Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram  
Car Wash  
Mulhern Belting  
Fiber Bond Corporation

### 2019

Marbach America Inc.  
Tempesta Media, LLC  
Sanlo, Inc.  
Mikropor America  
Fluid Coffeebar & Roasting Lab  
Shell Catalysts & Technologies

### 2020

Shady Creek Winery  
Harbour Trust & Investment  
Management Company  
Uptown Social  
Bosak Honda  
Midwest Metal Products  
PHM Brands/ Viobin  
J & B West Roofing  
James Burg Trucking Company

### 2021

Northwest Health Group

*Thank you to our Awards  
Sponsor Harbour Trust*

## Congratulations!

At Harbour Trust, we believe in supporting the community we are so blessed to work in. Therefore, we proudly support organizations that strive for change and that are working towards a better tomorrow for all of us. The EDCMC continues to provide resources to our local companies and opportunities to our friends and neighbors of Michigan City.

Happy 25th Anniversary to such an  
exceptional community partner.

[harbourtrust.com](http://harbourtrust.com) | 219.877.3500

**Harbour Trust**  
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COMPANY



Thank you to our Toast Sponsor Shady Creek

*Project of the Year*

**2018**  
GAF  
Franciscan Health Michigan City

**2019**  
Sullair LLC - a Hitachi Group  
Blue Chip Hotel, Casino & Spa

**2020**  
Hearthside Food Solutions

**2021**  
Aquagenics Technologies



SHADY CREEK  
WINERY

Cheers to the  
EDCMC for 25 years  
of success!

*Phoenix Awardees – Real Estate Reuse*

Our three award winners have reinvented a space or existing facility in Michigan City to spur a momentous transformation that has had compelling impact on the community. The “rising-from-the-ashes” reinventions have resulted in new investment in their businesses, new jobs and an enhanced product or service.

**Zorn Brew Works**

The brewery has been revived after decades of sitting idle. It was originally launched by Philip Zorn Jr. in 1871. A brewer’s son, Philip used a spring-fed well to produce an iconic brand of beer until closing in 1938. After 79 years of waiting to be reborn, the Zorn Brew Works taproom is now in the former carriage house on the grounds of the historic brewery. Today, the brewery churns out its own brew of beer and also serves up food.

**Barrelhouse at Zorn**

The rejuvenation of the Zorn campus continued when the Barrelhouse at Zorn was added to the Zorn Brew Works campus. It is a restored and renovated venue for events and weddings that includes a bridal suite, private dining room, bar and outdoor patio. The design is modern and industrial and includes original pieces, such as brickwork, beams and floors.

**Leeds Public House**

The restaurant at the corner of Fourth and Franklin streets reinvented the spot with indoor and outdoor seating and an energetic vibe. The restaurant took its name from the original moniker that still graces the top of the building. Brunch, lunch, dinner, seasonal dishes and specialty cocktails are on the menu with a side of community impact through the team’s give-back program that supports nonprofits: Leeds Project Heart.

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**LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

*Economic Development Corporation  
Michigan City*

- We power programs in the areas of:
- Environmental Stewardship
  - STEM and Energy Education
  - Public Safety
  - Economic and Workforce Development
  - Basic Needs and Hardship Assistance

Learn more at  
[NIPSCO.com/Community](https://www.nipSCO.com/Community)



*Thank you  
to all of our sponsors!*



**25**



## Leadership Awardees for Economic Development

Our two honorees have impacted economic development through their service to quality of life in our communities. This award recognizes individuals who have boosted economic development in a manner that is vital to how our city has evolved as well as showcased a sense of community. We appreciate their commitment to building a foundation for our future generations!

### **Nora Ryszka**, environmental steward

- Nora's clean-up endeavor was established when she and her children were walking along Michigan City beach in 2018. They discovered items that needed to be picked up by hand.
- She launched her ongoing community effort to organize volunteers who are armed with grabbers and buckets to clean up Washington Park Beach on Mondays.
- Her culture of cleaning has extended beyond the beach to the streets with her Great Green Clean to spark even more community spirit.
- Nora and her glass artist husband, John Ryszka II, were inspired to return to their hometown of Michigan City after seeing the momentum of the area and wanting to become more involved. "The beauty of a small town, and one that is focused on growth and improving, is that it is easy to become involved! If I see something that I think needs improvement, I get to work!"



### **Dion Campbell**, Michigan City Chief of Police

- Dion is a 22-year veteran of the department and has served in varied roles, including School Resource Office, Detective, Hostage Negotiator and Community Liaison Officer.
- He is a lifelong resident of the city and has received many citations, awards and achievements for his law enforcement career and beyond.
- He works to build up our youth through the creation of the Michigan City Police Department Youth Leadership Academy as well as participating in the Bridge to Manhood program as a lead instructor. This program strives to teach 13- to 17-year-olds how to become successful young men.
- Chief Campbell was tested as a leader with the department and within the community when he led officers during the 2020 protests spurred by the death of George Floyd. He was able to help balance the safety of the businesses and citizens with the protesters' desire for change.



## Lifetime Achievement Awardees for Economic Development

Our six honorees all have established a path toward elevated economic development through their passion for our communities in Michigan City and LaPorte County over the course of their careers. They have all served in various sectors and blazed their way as visionaries who have not only led but also mentored those in our communities. We are grateful for their lasting imprint on our economic growth!

### **Patricia Boy** – State Representative since 2018, Former EDCMC Board Member, Former City Council Member

- Pat owned a 24-hour secretarial/data management business with her husband from 1988-2016.
- Her time on the Michigan City Common Council included assisting with community development, labor negotiations, economic development and overhauling the Michigan City Municipal Code.
- She was encouraged to run for the council after she helped her neighbors protect a wetland.
- Her community involvement includes: member of the Better Government Study Group; member and past president of League of Women Voters of LaPorte County; representative to Drug-Free Partnership; member of the LaPorte County Chapter of the NAACP; and current member and past president of the nonpartisan League of Women Voters of LaPorte County.



Congratulations on 25 years of partnership and helping our community thrive.



A Hitachi Group Company





**Craig Dwight** - Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Horizon Bank

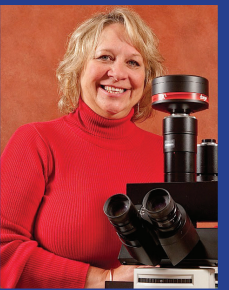
- Craig became president of Horizon Bank in 1998 and CEO in 2003, expanding the bank's footprint from eight to more than 75 locations. Horizon has grown into a \$74 billion asset bank.
- He focuses on strengthening community connections through outreach to underserved areas of Michigan City by attending housing summits, conferences and advisory boards to help determine how he can best continue as a servant leader.
- He is working on efforts to impact the Michigan City community, including working with One Region to support the Michigan City's Transportation Development Project and representing the Michigan City Chamber of Commerce and more on Michigan City's American Rescue Plan committee.
- His community involvement includes: serving as chair on the local hospital board, United Way of LaPorte County and the EDCMC board as well as assisting with fundraising efforts for nonprofits in the region.

**Bob Schaefer**, former EDCMC board member

- Bob began his foray into economic development during his time with NIPSCO. He connected with agencies and leaders across the region to help attract and retain businesses.
- He was instrumental in the creation of the original Michigan City Economic Development Corporation, offering his expertise to former Mayor Sheila Brillson to help lead Michigan City's economic development efforts.
- He continued to be active in the ED arena by serving on the board, assisting in recruiting, facilitating the first strategic planning session and coordinating the Circle of Investors Campaign to help fund the EDCMC and partner agency: La Porte Economic Advancement Partnership.
- His community involvement includes: serving on the Long Beach Town Council, helping form the Unity Foundation of LaPorte County as well as serving on its board and being a board member for the Center of Workforce Innovation.

**Peggy Moore**, CEO, Dage MTI and former EDCMC board member

- Peggy and husband John purchased Dage-MTI in 2003 – a long-standing company that is an international design leader in the design of advanced high-definition microscope cameras and digital stream solutions.
- Under her leadership, the company has invested in new digital products and



## Congratulations to the EDCMC on their Silver Anniversary!

Centier Bank's Servant Heart Culture is showcased in the Michigan City community through volunteerism, sponsorships, donations, and a culture driven by values.

Michigan City  
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Happy Silver  
Anniversary  
to our  
community  
partner!



technologies and provides an advanced line of HD digital cameras and HD video for clinical imaging, biomedical research, education and industrial microscopy.

- She is quietly passionate about economic development issues in Michigan City and strives to push the status quo and be a spark for positivity and change.
- She donates her time to support organizations around the city, including as a founding member of the Michigan City High School Post-Prom Party committee.

**Charles “Chuck” Oberlie**, former Michigan City mayor

- Chuck served in various capacities during his time with Michigan City, including assistant city planner, city planner, city controller and mayor.
- During his service to the city, Chuck championed plans for Tax Increment Financing Districts, Urban Development Areas and master plans. Projects that he had a hand in include: Trail Creek grants for fishing access, Michigan Beautification Project Phase 1, Skate Park and Zoo projects.
- He has held positions with the Michigan City Chamber of Commerce to lead business retention, economic development initiatives and neighborhood development efforts.
- He has been honored over the years by receiving the Sagamore of the Wabash, Breakfast of Champions, State Champion Award, Liberty Bell Award and the Norman E. Tufford Award.



**Sheila Brillson Matias**, LaPorte County Commissioner, former Michigan City mayor and one of the EDCMC creators

- Sheila is a founding member of the EDCMC and helped lay the groundwork for what the organization is today. First named the Michigan City Economic Development Corporation, our mission and vision were put into place by Mayor Brillson Matias and a team of business and community leaders.
- Sheila is also the Executive Director of the Leadership Institute and the Society of Innovators at Purdue Northwest.
- She is a former teacher, nonprofit manager, two-term councilwoman and two-term mayor of Michigan City.
- Her volunteer efforts include: Boy Scouts of America, Rotary Club, and Lions Club.

Happy  
Silver  
Anniversary  
**EDCMC!**

LA PORTE COUNTY

**Herald-Dispatch**



AT&T salutes the community organizations that lead the way — in leadership and in life.

We're proud to be a part of the Economic Development Corporation of Michigan City's Silver Gala. Congratulations on 50 years of making an impact!

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Wishing the EDCMC team a  
**Happy Silver Anniversary!**



 **Franciscan HEALTH**  
Michigan City

Thank you EDCMC  
for 25 years of  
Community Service!



*Celebrating a Century of Integrity* >

Congratulations to the EDCMC  
for 25 years in business!





# CONGRATULATIONS CRAIG DWIGHT

Craig Dwight  
Chairman & Chief  
Executive Officer

## Lifetime Achievement Award for Economic Development

Horizon Bank celebrates the EDCMC's Silver Anniversary and those being honored during the Gala Event. In particular, we are proud to congratulate Craig Dwight on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award for Economic Development.

*Congratulations, Craig!*



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