

20 Under 40 Award: Tom McIntire



Tom McIntire is an attorney at Barash & Everett LLC in Galesburg. He is a recipient of the 20 Under 40 award. LEWIS MARIEN/The Register-Mail

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GALESBURG — This week's recipient of the Young Professionals of Galesburg and the Galesburg Area Chamber of Commerce's "20 Under 40" award to be profiled is Tom McIntire, an attorney with Barash & Everett, LLC.

According to the nomination, McIntire is "involved in several organizations in the community as well as being a dedicated attorney for the last six years at Barash & Everett. He is known to refer to other young professionals in the area and has created a network for those who trust his professional judgment."

McIntire "is constantly working with people to find ways to bring businesses and young professionals back to Galesburg. ... He has

brought new insight to the business community by joining several local non-profit boards, continually attends Chamber of Commerce events and encourages other young professionals to do so as well, and constantly encourages young professionals to get involved in the community.

"He continues to show nothing but pride for the town he now calls home."

Here's more about McIntire in his own words:

Q. What do you do in your current position?

A. I am an attorney specializing in corporate formation and transactions, estate planning and probate, and bankruptcy law.

Q. How are you involved in the community?

A. I have served as the pro bono legal advisor for the Knox-Galesburg Symphony since 2011. I have been a member of the board of directors for the Galesburg Area Chamber of Commerce since 2014 and have served as Treasurer this past year on the Executive Committee. I have served as a member of the board of directors of Knox County Habitat for Humanity since earlier this year. I am also a member of the Galesburg Noon Lions Club, again starting this year. I have been a member of the Galesburg Chapter of Business Networking International (BNI) since 2014. Finally, I have served on the Finance Committee of the Discovery Depot since earlier this year.

Q. Of what achievement are you most proud?

A. I would pick two. This award means a lot because many awards are individual achievements acquired by reaching a certain mark or threshold, but receiving this award, after nomination and voting from my peers, is a bit of vindication. It demonstrates that I am making an impact and a difference in this community, even if it is only a small one. Also, and for the same reasons, my selection as a Rising Star for 2016 by Illinois Super Lawyer magazine.

Q. What advice do you have for other young professionals?

A. Getting involved in your community really is an invaluable part of your job or career. Never discount the power of personal referrals and "word of mouth advertising," especially in a smaller town.

Q. What's the most important thing people should know about your community?

A. Galesburg is an up-and-coming community with so much potential, and the mere existence of this award shows that we have a solid base of young professionals who are striving to make this community the best it can be. However, too often I hear people talking about how Galesburg has gone downhill and how it is a "dying town." This could not be further from the truth, but we need everyone to work together in order to accomplish the major revitalization that I believe is imminent. Twenty years from now, we will all be able to look back at how far we have come, and marvel in what we have accomplished as a community, and those of us who "bought in" to that vision will be reaping the benefits. Don't be left behind.

Tom McIntire Age: 31 Residence: Galesburg Profession: Attorney Education: Galva High School, 2002; Augustana College, B.A. 2006; University of Wisconsin – Madison, J.D. 2009. Family: Wife, Kim McIntire

About the award The Young Professionals of Galesburg and the Galesburg Area Chamber of Commerce have launched the "20 Under 40" award. This award honors 20 individuals under the age of 40 considered to be "movers and shakers" in the community. Honorees will be profiled each week through Jan. 31, 2016, in The Register-Mail. They will be included in a special supplement in February 2016, in addition to being recognized at the chamber's annual dinner to be held in February 2016. The 20 honorees are judged on their outstanding career achievements and community impact. A panel of judges evaluated each nomination on information provided in the following categories: Reason for nomination, career achievements/special awards and recognition, community involvement, volunteerism and community service leadership skills.