

20 Under 40: C.C. Wilcox



C.C. Wilcox is in Insurance Sales, Property Management & Co-owner/Founder of Kit's Original Mud. He is a recipient of the 20 Under 40 award.
STEVE DAVIS/The Register-Mail

Posted Jan. 17, 2016 at 1:55 PM - 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 C.C. Wilcox, insurance salesman and co-owner/founder of Kit's Original Mud.

According to the nomination, "Wilcox embodies the spirit of entrepreneurship. He has always been a creative, forward-thinking individual who refuses to accept, 'it can't be done' thinking. A 'local boy' with family history and roots, who loves Galesburg, C.C. is

proud that Galesburg is home to his family."

Wilcox has "dedicated himself to bettering the community. C.C. recognizes that to do so means not only helping himself but helping people at all levels, i.e., children, the less fortunate, the business community, the religious community, the charitable and non profit organizations, and community leaders."

Further, his nomination states that Wilcox "is an honest, charismatic person who proudly spreads the word about Galesburg's potential wherever he goes. C.C. truly represents the motivated, ambitious, positive spirit which will serve to enhance our city for years to come."

Here's more about Wilcox in his own words:

Q. What do you do in your current position?

A. In my insurance career I advise clients on which products would best protect their businesses and families. I utilize industry leading tools to manage and minimize risk involved in their daily operations through specialized risk management policies and procedures. In my property management position I oversee 50 units of residential housing while keeping a 99 percent occupancy rate. I pride myself in offering quality housing at affordable prices. In the Mud business, I have helped bring a family dream to reality. I started work about 6 years ago and finally brought Kit's Original Mud to market 1 year ago. We are now selling this favorite local dip in grocery stores, online and in some restaurants. We are in over 15 locations throughout central Illinois.

Q. How are you involved in the community?

A. I started the local BNI (Business Networking International) chapter around three years ago. I am currently the President. We are a group of 15 or so local professionals that meet weekly to promote our business through our motto "Givers Gain." I am a board member for Stone Hayes Center for Independent Living. I sit on the finance committee for my church, First United Methodist. I am an active member and past President of the Galesburg Noon Lions Club. I am a volunteer of the annual YMCA Strong Kids Campaign. I am a YPG member. I also help various other local organizations on their fundraising efforts.

Q. Of what achievement are you most proud?

A. I am most proud of my ability to give back to a community I love so much. I have been very blessed to have a career and a family that support me and allow me to give of my time and talents to this great city. I'm proud to call Galesburg home. I'm proud to be able to find success and happiness here.

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

A. You have a short amount of time to make a positive impact on the world around you. Don't take that time for granted. Give of yourself more and good things will come your way. Be the better person. Also know that it's not too late to start being that person you want to be. Don't ever let someone tell you that "it" can't be done. As my parents always told me, you can be anything you want to be, just make sure you're happy doing it.

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

A. Galesburg is strong. We are resilient, diverse and cultured. We are a fantastic community to work in, live in and raise a family in. Great things will come for Galesburg in the future. Plan on it!

C.C. Wilcox Age: 33 Residence: Galesburg Profession: Insurance Sales, Property Management & Co-Owner/Founder of Kit's Original Mud Education: High school Family: My parents are Kit & Pam Wilcox of Galesburg. My wife is Dr. Rita Wilcox who owns The Path Center for Healing and we have two daughters, Vida, 2, and Sydney, 11 months.

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.