

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NORTHWEST ILLINOIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES NEW GENZ FUND AWARD FOR MAIN STREET LAUNDRY

HANOVER, ILLINOIS - Northwest Illinois Economic Development (NWILED) has announced the presentation of the organization's eighth Genz Fund Award to Main Street Laundry in Stockton, Illinois. The check for \$5,000 from the Genz Small Business Development Fund was issued to Owner Colton Broshous the afternoon of March 6, 2025.

According to Broshous, the money will be used to purchase a new water softener system and to upgrade his payment system to include card readers. Currently the laundry takes only quarters and dollar bills.

"Starting a business in my hometown has always been a dream of mine," said Broshous. "And to do so in a building that has been in my family for decades makes it that much more special. Stockton has been in need of a laundromat for years and we hope to be a staple in the community for years to come."

On hand to congratulate Broshous was his sister, Brittney Shockey, who owns Studio B Salon located next door to the laundry; members of the NWILED Board; Stockton Chamber of Commerce Vice President, Cynthia Petersen; and the Village of Stockton's President, Dan Kunz, and Trustee, Linda Gonnerman.

"Main Street Laundry was once Broshous's grandfather's mechanic shop. Seeing it transformed and made into such a great community asset wasn't an easy task," said David Schmit, NWILED Regional Director. "It took all new plumbing and electrical, not to mention a lot of paint, for him to open last September. Plus, it's not your normal laundry. You can have a beer and play slots while you wait for

your dryer. And don't forget Main Street Fitness, Broshous's other business, is accessed through the laundromat."

Main Street Laundry is open every day from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and is located at 202 South Main Street in downtown Stockton, IL 61085. Interested people with questions can email Colton at cobro46@gmail.com or call 815-541-1926. Their website is www.TheMainStreetLaundry.com. They also have an active Facebook page.

ABOUT THE GENZ FUND AWARD:

Established in 2020, the Genz Small Business Development Fund was formed by the late John "Jack" Genz of Galena to help retailers, small manufacturers, wholesalers and hospitality industry genres, along with farmers and food processors and can be used to help fund capital projects, to purchase an existing business or for startup and pilot projects. The fund is administered by Illinois Bank & Trust. Since first awarded in 2020 a total of \$58,302 has now been dispersed through the fund.

ABOUT NWILED:

Northwest Illinois Economic Development was formed in 2008 by the Jo-Carroll Energy Board of Directors whose main goals were to spearhead economic development structures, funding and progress in Jo Daviess, Carroll, and Whiteside counties in Northwest Illinois. The Board's focus was to form a regional development entity concentrating on growing the economy and public/private partnerships.

Today, NWILED promotes economic development by fostering business growth and assisting expanding and relocating businesses in determining their needs for growth with cooperation of government and business partners. NWILED encourages entrepreneurs by assisting with access to resources to begin and grow their businesses and employ all available resources to create a welcoming business environment, aligning the skills of the available workforce with the needs of businesses, and building political and economic capital.