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**GALENA TROLLEY DEPOT COFFEE & TEA COMPANY  
AWARDED GENZ GRANT**

HANOVER, ILLINOIS - Northwest Illinois Economic Development (NWILED) has announced the presentation of the organization's Genz Fund award to Cory and Joy Heller, owners of the Trolley Depot Coffee & Tea Co. of Galena, Illinois. The check for \$7,727 was issued to the Hellers from the Genz Memorial Investment Fund. According to the Hellers, the grant was specifically used to purchase a high-end coffee roaster that will assist in servicing their existing customers, expanding their wholesale purchasing capabilities to business clientele and moving into online coffee services. According to the Hellers, the appliance is "the Corvette of sample roasters."

"Our next focus for our business is to grow our wholesale department," said Joy. "We will use the sample roaster to be able to dial in and create custom blends for new customers as well as continuing to develop our own coffees in the shop. A sample roaster is used to roast a small amount of coffee for the purpose of sampling the quality, flavors and performance of the bean before roasting in bulk quantities on our larger roaster."

Established in 2020, the Genz Memorial Investment Fund was formed by the late John "Jack" Genz of Galena in an effort to help retailers, small manufacturers, wholesalers and hospitality industry genres, along with farmers and food processors to use for capital projects, to purchase an existing business or for startup and pilot projects.

“NWILED began working with Joy and Cory Heller last fall, and we are excited to finally award them a Genz Memorial Investment Fund award,” said David Schmit, Regional Director for NWILED. “The award paid for a new Mill City coffee roaster which they will use to help accelerate their growth into the local wholesale market with area hoteliers and restaurateurs.”

The Trolley Depot & Coffee Tea Company opened in May of 2020, and is located at 315 S. Commerce Street in Galena. The shop offers specialty coffee roasted in-house, organic full-leaf teas, freshly baked pastries and an array of retail merchandise. Their website is [www.trolleydepotcoffee.com](http://www.trolleydepotcoffee.com) and their phone is 815-281-1077.

#### ABOUT NWILED:

Northwest Illinois Economic Development was formed in 2009 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 main focus was to form a regional development entity concentrating on growing the economy and public/private partnerships.

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.