

Athena comments for Cindy Yulich

The Lawrence Community is a better place to live and work because of people like Cindy Yulich. Cindy has enjoyed a 35-year career in banking, working for Security Bank in Kansas City, Ks for 10 years and for Emprise Bank for 25 years. Cindy opened the Lawrence location of Emprise Bank in 1991 and has risen to the position of Market President of the bank.

During her years in banking, Cindy has had leadership roles, mentoring, training, and encouraging bank employees to do their best, while leading them by example. She is an advocate for her employees by encouraging them to serve on a variety of boards and commissions in this community every day, and believes this offers opportunities for them to grow professionally by helping our community thrive.

Cindy believes in delivering superior customer service by offering services and trusted advice in her banking career and in her community service she practices that same philosophy. Cindy uses her talents and leadership skills to benefit our community in many ways.

A leading Lawrence businessman noted that Cindy is always looking to find the best in every situation. But even better, she is looking to find the best in every person. If she has one Super Power, it would be her ability to bring disparate points of view together to focus on collaboration and common ground between differing points of view. Probably her strongest leadership skill is her uncanny ability to listen to others and encourage them to share their perspective.

Cindy served as a member of the USD 497 School Board for 4 years. Cindy established the Randy Weseman and Emprise Bank Leadership Scholarship to recognize the many contributions that Randy Weseman made to the Lawrence Public Schools during his career. To date, 7 Lawrence High School and 7 Free State High School students have each received a \$1000.00 scholarship to attend a 4-year college or a two-year junior college, vocational or technical school.

She is Chair of the Lawrence Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. She recently chaired the Search Committee to hire the new CEO, Russ Johnson. A past Athena award winner pointed out that Cindy was an excellent chair, making sure that everyone had the opportunity to express their opinion and were fully engaged and informed during the entire process.

Cindy chaired the search for the Director of Peaslee Tech and was well prepared to articulate to the committee, the qualities we were looking for in this role, to ensure success of Peaslee Tech.

She is a Founding Board member and Treasurer of the Peaslee Technical Training Center. Cindy has long been a strong advocate for technical training, believing that this training is critical to the success of many citizens. She is completely committed to the

mission of Peaslee Tech and to the vision that Dwayne Peaslee had for technical training and what it would provide for this community. A past Athena Award winner commented that, as a board member, Cindy brings good sound financial advice, and her personal contributions of time, energy and money have been extraordinary.

She has also served as Chair and a Board member of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce, and is a past chair and current board member of the Economic Development Corporation.

Cindy served for 8 years on the Public Incentive Review Committee as a city appointee, reviewing and evaluating incentive applications.

Cindy's other service to the community includes;

- Serving as a board member and Treasurer for United Way
- Serving as a member of the Board of Directors for LEAP/Business-Education Partnership
- Serving as a member of the Site Councils for both Quail Run School and East Heights School
- Serving as a member of the American Cancer Society Board
- Serving as treasurer for Boy Scout Troop 53.

Cindy is a graduate of the Leadership Class of 1995 and was honored with the Lawrence Public Schools "Outstanding Citizen" award in 2002 and the Wally Galuzzi Chamber Volunteer of the Year award in 2013.

She is also member of Rotary.

Throughout all of these activities, Cindy has used her knowledge, skills, and talents to guide, educate, mentor and encourage people to make good decisions, to be fair and honest, and to work hard to make their goals and dreams for themselves and our community a reality.

Submitted by Jean Milstead and Shirley Martin-Smith