



Fresh Perspective

By Kyle Howard

Before I started my internship at Greater Lafayette Commerce on May 13th, I hadn't realized the impact of the organization or the importance of the events they coordinated. I attended three events during my first week, all important, yet unique from one another. The three events I went

to were Quarterly Development Series, the one-year anniversary of Trish's Red Bird Café and Career Signing Day. By attending these events, I gained insight into the importance of them, and my perspective transformed as a result.

Past Events

The first event I attended was Quarterly Development Series on Wednesday. The focus of the session was on construction projects around the area, mainly roads and waterworks. Three speakers talked about their organization's ventures and plans for future projects. The importance of the event was clear due to the number of construction projects discussed. Listening to the speakers changed my perspective of regional infrastructure, considering the amount of effort and resources poured into these projects, and the number being worked on simultaneously. I learned about several projects underway, or in the planning stage, that I didn't know about prior. One such project was a plan for a water tower approximately one mile from my home!

On Thursday, I attended two events. The first was the one-year anniversary of Trish's Red Bird Café, a restaurant in Dayton. We livestreamed the event, which included a passionate speech by the owner and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. I enjoyed this event because of the gratitude the owners' showed for being able to stay open for their first year. They genuinely appreciated the community supporting their dream, a dream the owners' have had for many years.

The second event on Thursday was Career Signing Day. I have already written an article about this event which you can read [here](#). The importance of this event was clear as the students signed with their employers, surrounded by proud families.

Future Events

There are many events occurring in the next few weeks to watch out for. Robotics in Manufacturing Camp begins on Monday, June 10th. This camp is an exciting opportunity for students to learn about the uses of robots, particularly in manufacturing. More information about Robotics in Manufacturing Camp can be found [here](#). I will be taking pictures at robotics camp, so make sure to check out the Greater Lafayette Commerce Facebook [page](#) to see them.

Another camp beginning in June is Tippecanoe Building Trades Summer Camp. Trades Camp meets every Tuesday from June 4th to July 9th. At this camp, students will learn trades from skilled workers including carpenters, bricklayers, ironworkers and more. This is a very important event for students seeking training in professions they would like to pursue. Gaining experience in any field is extremely valuable, so the students who attend are setting themselves up for success. I will be taking pictures at this event as well.

Although I have only been an intern for GLC for a few weeks, I have seen firsthand the importance of the events they have organized. From helping students get ahead in their careers to celebrating business owners on their accomplishments, each event is important for different reasons.