

## For Immediate Release

October 23, 2020

## Scott County 2020 FAST-TRACK Challenge Winners Announced

The FAST-TRACK Challenge is pleased to announce Euroworx European Automotive Specialist, based in New Prague, is the 2020 FAST-TRACK Challenge 1st place winner! The company is providing "A New Level of Service for Auto Care and Your Luxury Vehicle". Highly accredited in Europeans cars, Master BMW technician, Jake De St Hubert, is the Founder and President. Having listened to luxury vehicle owners complain about the inconvenience of having to deliver their European vehicle for diagnostics, maintenance or minor repair, Jake decided to change the game. Jake and his team will now bring diagnostics right to your front door! It is a new level of automotive service that has never been tried before and he is proud to bring it to the Scott County area. Euroworx Automotive received \$3,000 in cash (donated by Minnesota Valley Electric Co-Op Project Round Up, Old National Bank and the Scott County CDA), legal services donated by Larkin Hoffman, design services from NeonLizard Graphic Design, one year free mentorship from Technology Village Prior Lake and a one year free memberships to the Prior Lake and New Prague Chambers of Commerce.

Second place was presented to Fitness Boomers, LLC., based in Shakopee. The company's mission is to change the world through our children. Founder, Chathu Hettiarachchi is a passionate child educator, certified fitness and yoga teacher, and mother of an 8-year-old daughter. Fitness Boomers LLC is a one of a kind fitness, yoga and meditation program, serving many public-school districts in MN with a very unique service focused on building the younger generations to be emotionally and physically healthy as they are the creators of the future. Chathu is a former HR Business Partner for St. Jude Medical with a master's degree in HR. She gave up a corporate career to serve the dream to build up a happy, healthy, creative and powerful young generation for a better tomorrow! Fitness Boomers, LLC. received \$1,500 in cash from sponsors, legal services from Larkin Hoffman, design services from NeonLizard Graphic Design, one year free membership to the Savage Chamber of Commerce and one year free mentorship from Technology Village Prior Lake.

Third place honors went to IntelligentRx, based in Shakopee. Experienced pharmacist Thomas Kosgei is the founder/owner of this digital healthcare startup with a service product designed to increase access to affordable prescriptions to all Americans. Thomas has 10-years of experience working in retail pharmacy and the health insurance industry. His passion is to help Americans afford their prescriptions so that they can get the medications they need on their path to better health. IntelligentRx received \$500 in cash from sponsors, graphic design services from NeonLizard Graphic Design and one year free membership to the Shakopee Chamber of Commerce.

The three winners were among five finalists who were selected from applications submitted in August. Over the past month, the finalists have met with representatives from Technology Village's Board of Directors to practice their pitches and fine tune their business plans. Finalists also included Woven Cloth by Wild Ruffle in Prior Lake and Permits Plus based in Jordan. All five finalists impressed the judges with their business plans and market potential.

The panel of judges included Angela Heikes, President and CEO of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) Gaming Enterprise; Charles Shannon, VP of Corporate Development Merrill Corporation; Kristin Haugen, Vice President, Legal for Moreneau Shepell; Bill Gray, President of Uponor North America and Joseph J. Fittante, Corporate Practice Chair, Larkin Hoffman.

Sponsors of the 2020 FAST-TRACK included Silver Sponsors Larkin Hoffman, the Scott County CDA and Technology Village Prior Lake. Bronze Sponsors included NeonLizard Creative Marketing & Design, Old National Bank, Minnesota Valley Electric Co-Op Round-Up. Copper Sponsors include the New Prague Chamber of Commerce, Prior Lake Chamber of Commerce, Savage Chamber of Commerce and Shakopee Chamber and Visitors Bureau. Approximately \$15,500 in start-up cash and professional services were awarded to the three winners.

This was the fourth annual Scott County FAST-TRACK Challenge. The inaugural event, held in October 2017, received the Economic Development Association of Minnesota's Program of the Year in January 2018. The 2020 FAST-TRACK Challenge event was recorded and segments will be available to view on the FAST-TRACK Challenge website at <a href="www.ScottCountyFastTrack">www.ScottCountyFastTrack</a> later in November.

The Scott County FAST-TRACK Challenge is a free, annual business competition designed to fast-track start-up and first-stage businesses to success. For more information, to sign up as a sponsor or service provider for 2021 or register for the October 21, 2021 event, please visit: <a href="https://www.scottcountyfasttrack.com">www.scottcountyfasttrack.com</a>

Below, pictured left to right: 2020 Scott County FAST-TRACK Challenge Winners: 1st Place-Jake De St. Hubert of Euroworx Automotive Specialist LLC. (New Prague), 2nd Place-Chathu Hettiarachichi and Stacy Sullivan of Fitness Boomers (Shakopee) and 3rd Place-Thomas Kosgei of IntelligentRx (Shakopee).

