

Member SPOTLIGHT



Holly Wehr



Turning Vision into Reality

Holly Wehr's journey to becoming the Director of Community Development for Versailles is a story of transformation, perseverance, and a deep love for her community. A native of the area, Holly's father served on the board of directors at SEI REMC. She returned home after a series of life-changing events that steered her path back to the place she truly wanted to be.

Holly's professional journey began as an elementary school teacher, where she found joy in making an impact on her students. However, she realized that teaching wasn't the perfect fit for her long-term goals. After transitioning into sales, Holly quickly moved up into a national sales position. But when tragedy struck with the sudden loss of both her parents, Holly felt it was time to reevaluate her life's direction. "It was a turning point," she says, reflecting on her decision to come home to the farm. There, she took on a marketing role with a school tech company, but again, something felt missing. She longed to be more connected to her community.

In her desire to help bring her two sisters back home to Versailles, Holly became increasingly involved in the town's revitalization efforts. Her journey with Main Street Versailles began as part of the Main Street Group, and her efforts expanded into managing the Farmers Market. Eventually, Holly became president of Main Street Versailles, a role where she could influence positive change and lay the groundwork for a future she could be proud of. This led to her current role as the Director of Community Development for the town, where she has helped shape Versailles into the vibrant community it is today.



One of Holly's impactful projects came when she invested in The Tanglewood, a boutique hotel and event venue located in a long-forgotten building on the Versailles square. Holly was inspired by the "I wish this was" campaign, a community-driven initiative where residents expressed their wishes for the town's empty buildings. Overwhelming feedback suggested the need for a place where out-of-town guests could stay. At the time, there were few options for lodging outside of camping at the park, which, despite drawing thousands of visitors, didn't have many amenities to keep people in town. Seeing an opportunity, Holly thought, "Why not me?" and took the leap to invest in The Tanglewood.

She purchased the property in 2019, and the journey to restore and reimagine the space was full of hard lessons to learn. Holly didn't want to just create a hotel; she envisioned a venue that could bring the town together while attracting visitors. "The Tanglewood Hotel and Venue was born," she says proudly. Through sheer determination, Holly made her dream a reality, and with it, a new chapter for Versailles.

In addition to The Tanglewood, Holly also played a huge role in the creation of the Pocket Park, a town staple. Born from the "I wish this was" campaign, the Pocket Park features live music, a splash pad, rentable bikes, and locally painted murals, becoming a vibrant gathering place for both locals and visitors. Holly's involvement in these community-driven projects shows her vision for a thriving, connected Versailles.

In the years to come, Holly sees Versailles becoming a "destination for outdoor enthusiasts" over the next 5 to 10 years. "We're more capable than we think we are," she advises those looking to make a difference in their community. "Good things take time, grit, and perseverance."



Thanks to Holly, the small town of Versailles has, and will continue to, flourish and grow. As a proud member of SEI REMC, she advocates for our people to help each other in all ways. Thank you, Holly, for being an advocate for our community.

SEI REMC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Dereck Moore

With 19 years of dedicated service, Dereck Moore plays an important role at Southeastern Indiana REMC as a Demand Side Management Technician.

His primary responsibilities include installing and maintaining generators to ensure our members are prepared and protected during outages. Dereck enjoys the hands-on nature of his work and appreciates the opportunity to be outdoors throughout the day. Outside of work, he values spending quality time with his family, which he considers the most rewarding part of life.

Thank you, Dereck, for your incredible service and dedication throughout the years.

Do you know someone who has made a significant impact within our community? Let us know and they could be featured in a future spotlight article!

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