**Six People You Need to Know**

**Niel Ellerbrook:** It's tough heading an energy company these days, but Vectren's CEO does it with grace. When the Indiana Chamber of Commerce named him Business Leader of the Year in front of a crowd, Ellerbrook asked his staff to stand and take a bow. For the millions of dollars he's helped raise for schools, museums, and charities, Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels hailed him as "a genuine public citizen of this state who has made contributions innumerable."

**Vince Bertram:** We Evansvillians tend to be tight with our dollars, but when the new Evansville Vanderburgh School Corp. superintendent asked voters to support a $149 million bond issue to improve schools, they answered with a resounding yes. Bertram's inclusive style and impressive resume won over skeptics, but most appealing may be his personal story: A kid from a broken home, he almost quit school before a caring principal stepped in.

**Talitha Washington:** Talk about a brainiac; this University of Evansville math professor with a fondness for differential equations was the first black woman to earn a Ph.D. in math at the University of Connecticut. But her real genius may be her ability to awaken students to their own intellectual capacity: The passionate educator works with local schools to help improve test scores of at-risk students.

**Allison Comstock:** In legal circles, Comstock is known for negotiating complex real estate deals and guiding elderly clients worried about estate planning. But she may be best known for her enthusiastic involvement with local charities. She'll do whatever it takes to raise money for a good cause, including unabashedly taking the stage at the Really Big Show to sing and dance.

**Jingle Igleheart Hagey:** If you're fortunate enough to have attended a charitable event catered by Hagey, you know her culinary skills are sweet. But the smart cookie behind the apron offers so much more. Hagey — whose real first name is Belle — helped create the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County, a fast-growing philanthropy run by women inspired to invest in the community.

**Bishop Gerald Gettellinger:** In a city heavily populated by Roman Catholics, Gettellinger shepherds a large and diverse flock in his 13-county diocese. Gettellinger — who celebrates his 20th year as bishop in April — also has weighed in on moral issues, from immigration to the death penalty. Ever mindful of human failing, he encourages believers to be better angels of our nature.