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## **SCORE Names Spun Bicycles Client of the Year**

*Entrepreneur is daughter of deceased SCORE counselor Ed Rothenberg*

SCORE is taking Spun Bicycles on an awesome, awesome ride.

The Northside full-service, retail bike sales, repair and restoration shop was named a SCORE Client of the Year at its annual luncheon celebrating local small business successes.

SCORE is the volunteer arm of the Small Business Administration. Its working and retired executives mentor small business owners in the areas of business operations, marketing and finance.

The three-year-old shop owned by spouses Judi and Dominic LoPresti has been profitable since it opened in February of 2013. It was named one of America's Best Bike Shops for 2014 by the National Bicycle Dealers Association for its customer service, customer loyalty and generally making the world a better place.

Spun Bicycles sells selected brands of bicycles and provides repair, restoration work and custom fabrication for all types of road bikes, including fixed gear, BMX bikes; mountain bikes, cruisers, and old cruiser bikes.

“We want to keep the fun in bicycling and keep it affordable,” said Judi LoPresti. “There are more bicyclists in Northside than any other zip code in the city. Commuting by bike is up about 200 percent in the last few years and we love catering to these folks, especially those who depend on their bikes to get around versus someone who has a car.”

Spun Bicycles sales jumped 41 percent from year one to year two and the LoPrestis predict a 15-percent sales jump in from year two to year three.

The LoPresti’s business partnership is a balanced one, said SCORE mentor Carlin Stamm of Mt. Lookout. He said their passion for wheels and attention to business details has been the hub of their success.

“It’s amazing, the promise they have and are building upon,” said Stamm. “Success is not just a dollar amount or skill set, but a passion to work longer and harder for yourself than for someone else.

“If they are not building bikes, selling bikes or repairing bikes, they are riding bikes. The store is now getting credit for helping Northside make the transition to prosperity.”

Judi’s father, Ed Rothenberg, was a long time SCORE counselor and died in 2012, leaving her an inheritance. She contacted SCORE to help her use the money wisely and start a sustainable business to make him proud. She said she asks Stamm the questions she would ask her father if he were still alive.

“It’s awesome to come to SCORE and always have Carlin there,” said Judi.  
“We’ve developed a great friendship and refer to him as our business advisor.”

Dominic LoPresti said designing and building bikes is more fun than work for him. He said he wanted to build a sense of community inside his bike shop that welcomed customers.

“I’m a grease monkey,” he said. “I wanted to create a bike shop that was like entering my living room. It’s been invaluable to us to have Carlin to help with the numbers. It’s made my life easier because I can focus on what I do best.”

For more information about Spun Bicycles, go to [www.spunbicycles.com](http://www.spunbicycles.com) or call the shop at (513) 541-7786.

For more information about SCORE, its counseling services and seminars, go to [www.scoreworks.org](http://www.scoreworks.org) or call (513) 684-2812.

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