

Family-Owned Business of the Year

C-Star Property Management

In the heart of Stillwater, where traditions run deep, there's a remarkable family-owned business that has been serving the community for over three decades. C-Star Property Management, the winner of the Family-Owned Business of the Year award has made its name in the local real estate and property management industry.

C-Star Property Management has its roots in the vision and determination of its founder, Howard Aufleger, whose story begins with the management of a property for a bank. The growth was organic, with the establishment of Linden Real Estate Company, managing a few properties. It was in 1991 that the company evolved into a C-Star Property Management.

Today, the company's leadership carries on the family tradition. Barrett Aufleger, one of Howard's sons oversees the maintenance, construction and commercial properties sector of the business. Meanwhile, his brother Seth oversees the property management sector. C-Star is undeniably a family business, and the bonds of their family have played a significant role in its success.

C-Star's services span a broad spectrum, offering property management for both multi-family and single-family homes, as well as managing com-

mercial properties such as the Morgan Building, and the Venture Building at the tech park. C-Star even manages a few of the fraternity houses on Oklahoma State's campus. They extend their expertise into HVAC and plumbing, employing licensed professionals to provide these services.

Construction is also a part of their portfolio, with the company engaged in building apartments and other residential properties. While they manage their own properties, an impressive 75% of their property management business is devoted to managing the properties of others.

One of the standout characteristics of C-Star Property Management is their active involvement in the Stillwater community. Their team members are encouraged to find and support causes they are passionate about. This culture of company engagement is something they take pride in.

Ernie, a member of their team, dedicates a significant portion of his time to support the Special Olympics. Moreover, C-Star's participation in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Board, Young Professionals of Stillwater, Payne County United Way, Stillwater Public Education Foundation, and Stillwater KLife exemplify their commitment to the community's well-being.



What sets C-Star apart is the essence of being a family-owned business. They don't just consider their team as employees; they want them to feel like an integral part of the family and the business. This unique culture fosters a sense of belonging and commitment among their staff.

More than anything, it's about legacy. C-Star aims to pass down a thriving business to the next generation. Barrett and Seth each have three kids of their own that they hope to instill the same passion for community and business to, ensuring the legacy continues for generations to come.

C-Star Property Management is more than just a property management company; it's a testament to the enduring power of family values, community involvement, and the pursuit of excellence. As they continue to thrive and grow, their commitment to Stillwater remains the same, and they serve as an inspiring example of what a family-owned business can achieve.

