



**DEKALB COUNTY**  
Economic Development Corporation

# DeKalb County EDC

News & Information

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## New DCEDC Board Members and Officers

At the Annual Dinner and State of the County Update in March, new members were inducted and new officers were introduced.

### *New Members:*

- Cindy Capek, *DeKalb Park District*
- Dave Medlin, *Target Distribution Center*
- Gary Seegers, *Driv-Lok, Inc.*

### *Officers:*

- President - Don Bricker, *The Daily Chronicle*
- Vice President of Development - Paul Callighan, *ComEd*
- Secretary/Treasurer- Greg Millburg, *DeKalb County Farm Bureau*

Welcome to the new additions to the DCEDC Board! Also, a hearty thank you to retiring board members, John Corsiglia, Alice Freier and Dan Hammingson for your efforts and support of DCEDC.

*Pictured at left: Don Bricker, Paul Callighan and Greg Millburg*

## DCEDC Upcoming Events



DCEDC will be offering a second **Management Roundtable** on Thursday, May 12, 2011. This time the topic will be "**How to Manage Coming Out of a Recession.**" Jim James, CEO of IDEAL INDUSTRIES, INC. has graciously agreed to return and present on Part Two of this series.

The event will take place at the Kishwaukee College Conference Center, with registration beginning at 11:00 am and the presentation to commence at 11:30 am. Once the presentation is completed attendees will be invited to form small groups to discuss management practices while eating lunch.

The event is just around the corner and promises to be an excellent opportunity for sharing management practices and networking with others. Sign up now at [www.dcedc.org](http://www.dcedc.org). The deadline for registration is May 5, 2011.



Also, Mark Your Calendars for an upcoming **Business Roundtable** where you will have the opportunity to **Meet the Presidents**. Both Dr. John Peters, President of Northern Illinois University and Dr. Tom Choice, President of Kishwaukee College will be present to greet attendees and give presentations on their respective schools. The event will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at the Barsema Hall Alumni Center beginning at 11:30 am.

For more information on either of these events or to register for visit our website at [www.dcedc.org](http://www.dcedc.org).



### **DCEDC Recent Event**

During the evening on March 29, 2011, the DCEDC once again held its **Annual Dinner and State of the County Update**. The event was held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau and drew many attendees, exhibitors and sponsors.

The event showcased 28 local businesses and organizations with the exhibits opening at 4:30 pm. Attendees had the opportunity to peruse the tables while networking with other individuals who have common interest in area development. The pasta dinner, catered by Premier Catering, also provided a chance for discussion.

Attendees were invited to gather in the auditorium in order to hear the evening's presentation. The event co-chairs, Beth Bollinger and Paul Callighan, kicked-off the Business Meeting presentation by thanking all of the DCEDC contributors, event sponsors and volunteers. At the conclusion of the Business Meeting, Paul Borek took the stage to thank retiring president, Gary Evans, for his years of service to the organization. Then Mr. Borek gave his presentation on activity in the county over the past year as well as re-cap the Business Retention Visit Program that DCEDC had conducted over the past year.

For more information on the event check out the [Annual Events Section](#) of the website.



### **DCEDC 2011 Fundraising Campaign Kicks Off**

On April 15th, staff met with members of the DCEDC Fundraising Task Force to officially kickoff DCEDC's 2011 Fundraising Campaign. The members present, enjoyed a light breakfast, networking with new and existing members, and sharing best practice strategies when appealing for funds. Paul Callighan, Fundraising Co-Chair, provided a recap of the 2010 results, and shared our 2011 Goal of \$237,500. He energized the crowd on how we are going to get there, while Borek and Hoyle reviewed procedures and information with the group. If you would like to make a contribution for 2011, please feel free to visit our website at [www.dcedc.org](http://www.dcedc.org), or contact our office at (815) 895-2711.

## DeKalb County Video Tour Book

A major mission of DCEDC is to promote the assets of our county in new ways to current community members and potential development prospects alike. One way to get the word out about DeKalb County is through the internet and modern media formats. Recently, DCEDC partnered with DeKalb County Government to produce a series of short videos to communicate information about the county.

After months of script writing, filming and editing the new DeKalb County Videos are up and running on our website. The video showcase highlights the county and its communities. Topics include healthcare, economic development, quality of life and more. To view this new addition to the website, go to [www.dcedc.org](http://www.dcedc.org) and click on the dropdown menu to the right titled "DeKalb County Video *Tour Book*". Happy viewing!



## DeKalb County Activity

28% of all **Metro Chicago industrial construction** in 2010 occurred in DeKalb County representing 1% of the region's population.

The **3M Regional Distribution Center** in Park 88 developed by Venture One Development Services and Clayco Realty Group was selected as Industrial Build-to-Suit Project of the Year by the Chicago Chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Parks. Venture One and Milner & Associates represented Park 88.

All of the manufacturing buildings constructed in Metro Chicago during 2010 – **SK Hand Tools** and **Smart Motion Robotics** – were built in the Sycamore Prairie Business Park. The SK Hand Tools building was completed by Kruskinski Construction for IDEAL INDUSTRIES, INC. in a remarkable 16 weeks.

**H.A. Phillips** plans to build a 22,000 square foot building on Enterprise Drive in the Airport North Industrial Park. The manufacturer of control solutions for industrial refrigeration systems plans to invest \$2 million and employ 25 workers. The City of DeKalb approved a Tax Increment Financing agreement to attract the project and agreed to expedite design and permit review to ensure timely construction.

DeKalb County employment for March 2011 was 54,531, an increase of 1,230 over March 2010. The unemployment rate was 8.4%, a significant improvement over same period of the prior year's (10.8%).

***For information on available sites, buildings and commercial space check out the Sites & Buildings section of the DCEDC website at [www.dcedc.org](http://www.dcedc.org).***



## **Groundbreaking for DeKalb County Courthouse**

On Monday, April 4, 2011 community leaders gathered to break ground for the new courthouse expansion. The courthouse, located in Sycamore, Illinois has been a key feature of the community since 1904 when it was built.

In recent years it has become apparent that modern improvements, as well as increased physical capacity were needed in order to be able to continue to serve the county out of that building. Different options were explored such as housing activities currently carried out by the courthouse in other buildings but most wanted to keep the building as the sole provider of the these services.

Preserving the historical character of the building has presented challenges up to this point but most have been solved by adding on to the rear of the building. The front façade and walk up to the building has been a community favorite and so the changes will all take place on the north side of the building to protect the visual integrity of this cornerstone.

The architect is, PSA-Dewberry and the construction manager is, Gilbane Building Company. Construction should last about 15 months and cost about \$15 million.



## **Annual Sponsors**

Castle Bank, IDEAL INDUSTRIES, INC., KishHealth System, and The National Bank and Trust Company have committed to sponsor all DCEDC events in 2011.

We appreciate their expanded support!

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