



**DEKALB COUNTY**  
Economic Development Corporation

# DeKalb County EDC

News & Information

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## DCEDC Executive Committee Field Trip to NextEra

Most residents of the county are familiar with the 145 wind turbines of the Lee/DeKalb Wind Energy Center, but very few have been treated to the same type of tour the DCEDC Executive Committee experienced on Monday, October 4, 2010. Johnny Giles and Mary Wells of NextEra Energy Resources hosted the group at their Shabbona facility.

After the business portion of the meeting, Wells and Giles gave a presentation on their company, which is the largest wind generator in the United States, and its relationship with DeKalb County. The company is dedicated to clean and renewable energy and wind energy creates no air or water pollution. Having a wind farm in the county means a larger tax base, lease payments to the land owners, and added employment.

Following the presentation, the group traveled to the base of one of the wind turbines, which stand 262 feet from the ground to the hub. It takes 6-7 mph winds to turn the blades that travel about 194 mph at the tips. The tower can hold at least 10 board members standing shoulder to shoulder across its diameter.

For more information on NextEra Energy Resources, visit their website at <http://www.nexteraenergyresources.com/>.



## Small Business Development Expo

Are you an entrepreneur starting a new business in need of advice or support? Or possibly a current business owner who is interested in expanding an existing enterprise? Then attend the Small Business Development Expo at the DeKalb County Legislative Center in Sycamore on November 29 from 6-9:00 pm.

A variety of resources will be on hand, including the Illinois Small Business Development Centers, Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), the Kishwaukee College Center for Business Development and Continuing Education, and business incubators, local banks, accounting and legal services representatives.

Register for the Small Business Development Expo by contacting: Julian Magdaleno at 815-899-0778, email: [jmagdaleno@dekalbcounty.org](mailto:jmagdaleno@dekalbcounty.org) Mary Supple at 815-895-7189, email: [msupple@dekalbcounty.org](mailto:msupple@dekalbcounty.org)



## **DCEDC Events**

### **Industrial Focus Luncheon & Program: Metals Industry**

On Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 11:30 am at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau DCEDC held its annual Industrial Focus. The presenting companies this year were DeKalb Forge and Engineered Storage Products Company.

Brandt Moffatt opened the presentations with an exciting movie clip showing one of DeKalb Forge's hammers in action. He went on to give a brief history of the company which was purchased by Don Jones in 1988 and has since acquired over 15 other forge companies. DeKalb Forge makes a diverse array of forged parts including items for the aerospace, recreation, automobile, and medical industries. Currently, they have over 6,000 dyes in storage for their customers.

Rich Enners took the stage next to speak about Engineered Storage Products Company's four brands, Harvestore®, Aquastore®, Slurrystore®, and TecStore® and the future direction of the company. Enners believes his company will continue to perform well as 75% of their revenue comes from the Aquastore® brand that is used to house potable water. Also, the company is poised to become a leader in Bioenergy storage solutions.

After the presentations Brandt Moffatt, Don Jones and Rich Enners fielded questions from the audience on a range of topics. To view the presentations in full check out the Member's Only Section of the DCEDC website.



### **Management Roundtable:**

#### **"Managing Business During Economic Swings"**

DCEDC introduces this new program on Tuesday, November 30, 2010 from 11:30am to 1:00pm at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau. The Management Roundtable is designed to respond to business owners, executives and managers who have asked for a mentoring, collaboration and information-sharing forum to address best practices and resolve business challenges.

Over lunch Jim James, CEO of IDEAL INDUSTRIES, will talk about how to manage effectively during economic cycles. Then participants will form small groups to discuss topics like: "How to Reduce Expenses without Gutting Operations; Managing your Workforce in Tough Times; Innovation on Low Budgets; and How to Deal with Demanding Customers or Vendors in Financial Difficulty".

Register for the Management Roundtable at [www.dcedc.org](http://www.dcedc.org); by email at [hoyle@dcedc.org](mailto:hoyle@dcedc.org) or by calling (815)895-2711.



### DCEDC Staff

Karen Hoyle has joined the team as Administrator, replacing Linda Heinisch, who retires October 29, 2010. Karen's career path has been in the banking/mortgage lending area for the past 26 years. Karen is a lifelong resident of DeKalb, Illinois. She is married to Greg, a Battalion Chief for the City of DeKalb Fire Department. Together they have two sons, Matthew and Connor. In her spare time she enjoys watching her sons play sports and spending time with family and friends. Karen looks forward to serving DCEDC and meeting its members.



### Kishwaukee College Referendum

Kishwaukee College is placing a referendum on the November 2 ballot requesting residents to renew their investment in our community college by supporting this \$52.6 million initiative. This is a NO TAX RATE INCREASE referendum that is necessitated by a 20% increase in the college's enrollment over the past two years. Referendum dollars will be used to fund additional classrooms and labs, expanded space for adult education services, relocation of campus operations and road and parking lot improvements. The DCEDC Board recommends approval of this referendum as it will allow needed education and training for our local young people, adults and communities. For more information please visit [www.kishwaukeecollege.edu/go/referendum/](http://www.kishwaukeecollege.edu/go/referendum/).



### Entrepreneurship Connection

On Tuesday, November 16, 2010 from 8-11:00am, The Entrepreneurship Connection will hold its third event of the year, *The Future of Entrepreneurship*, at the Aurora Campus of Waubensee Community College. The fads of entrepreneurship have come and gone with the decades. Presently, crowd-sourcing, social media, and mobile apps are the hot marketing tools of current practice; what's next?



Barry Moltz, a nationally recognized expert on entrepreneurship, will present "Bounce! The Path to Business Success" which focuses on the development of resiliency to push through the cyclical bad times and come out on top. Following his presentation, facilitated groups will convene to discuss Entrepreneurship and Global Business, Small Business Tools to Thrive in this Economy, and the Future of Financing.



Cost for the event is \$10 and includes breakfast. The Entrepreneurship Connection is presented by Waubensee Community College and the Center for Business education, Innovation and Development. For more information call the IL SBDC at (630) 906-4143 or check out their website [www.cbeid.org](http://www.cbeid.org).



### **Smart Energy Design Assistance Center**

Are you a public sector administrator or facility manager in the ComEd or Ameren Illinois Utilities service territories? Then attend the "Electrical Efficiency Workshop for the Public Sector" on November 19 from 12:30-4:30pm at the DK County Farm Bureau.

At this workshop you will learn about electrical efficiency incentives available from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and energy cost reduction measures. Multiple speakers will address *The Challenge of Energy Efficiency and Sustainability in the Public Sector* and *New Opportunities for Energy Efficiency*.

Don't miss this chance to improve efficiency! To register or for more information go to <http://go.illinois.edu/sedacworkshops>.



### **DCAHRM/RAHRA Moving Forward**

If you are not familiar with this dynamic group now is the time to turn your attention to this terrific regional resource. The DeKalb County area Human Resource Managers and the Rochelle Area Human Resource Association have teamed up and recently met to discuss how to revamp the group so it is more effective. The session was electric with HR professionals and business owners from throughout the county discussing topics of importance to them and their businesses. The five-six annual sessions will be SHRM certified and appropriate for business professionals involved in small, medium and large sized operations.

The next scheduled event is December 14 from 8 – 9:30 am at Kishwaukee College. The speaker is Liz Bockman who will talk about *Everyday Essentials for Extraordinary Professionals*. Membership VP, Ryan Kralka, encourages you to contact him at [ryankralka@alphagraphics.com](mailto:ryankralka@alphagraphics.com) to become involved.



### **Annual Sponsors**

*Castle Bank, IDEAL INDUSTRIES, INC. and KishHealth System have committed to sponsor all DCEDC events in 2010.*

*We appreciate their expanded support!*

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