



DCEDC Annual Meeting Draws 300 Attendees

Once again the DeKalb County Farm Bureau hosted a crowd at this annual event. As usual uncertain weather – rain, wind, hail and finally sunshine – greeted the 300 attendees who braved the elements to enjoy the DCEDC Annual Dinner and Program.

The pasta bar buffet served by Premier Catering was a big hit and networking opportunities abounded as attendees toured the twenty-five displays in the Farm Bureau foyer.

The formal program included, an official membership meeting, a visual walk through County development conducted by Paul Borek, DCEDC Executive Director, and a presentation by Dr. Bob Gleeson of the NIU Center for Governmental Studies that addressed the topic of “Economic and Social Trends in DeKalb County”.

The full presentation is available in the **Members Only** section of the DCEDC website, www.dcedc.org.

Strategic Plan – Business Retention & Expansion Focus

DCEDC in partnership with ComEd is initiating a Business Retention/Expansion Visitation Program, designed to support existing businesses and to improve the business environment throughout the county.

Our goal is to learn what it will take to retain, attract and nurture businesses in DeKalb County. Our program involves visits to local firms, where we will conduct interviews to identify concerns, needs and opportunities.

A standard survey tool will be used and information gathered will be organized using the *Synchronist* software program developed by ComEd.



DCEDC Events

The April 30 **Business Roundtable on “Healthcare in Today’s Economy”** featured panelists Kevin Poorten of KishHealth System, Craig Livermore of Delnor Community Hospital and David Schertz of OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center. The group first introduced their individual service areas and markets and then gave an overview of critical issues medical facilities face today.

Reduced patient demand, increased charity cases, and investment portfolio declines have impacted medical facility bottom lines. To offset these factors healthcare is working to reduce supply cost, heighten productivity and using process improvement systems.

Despite these challenging times their uniform priority remains quality care for patients, protecting staff jobs and communicating with boards and employees about plans to weather the economic downturn.

A PowerPoint from the IL Hospital Association that illustrates many of the points they raised is available in the **Members Only** section of the DCEDC website.

Currently we are planning a June Roundtable event that will focus on “The Linkage between Child Care and Economic Development”. Check your email for details on date, time and location of this important event.

DeKalb County Activity

Kloke Construction of Elgin purchased a 7 acre parcel just off Harvestore Drive and plans to relocate their business from Cook County.

In the Sycamore Prairie Business Park a German glass firm has purchased two lots with plans to construct a building to house their distribution operation. They produce both architectural and art glass.

We have assisted parties interested in the former FFE Palladin Light building in Lee as well as the West Irving Die Cast building in Sandwich.

Smart Motion Robotics (SMR) is looking at a site in the Sycamore Prairie Business Park for a 25,000 sq ft building. They are a high tech company that produces robotic equipment for both delicate and palletized shipments.

DeKalb County Government has scheduled a second hearing on Monday May 11 at 9 AM in the Sandburg Auditorium at the NU Holmes Student Center for public comment on NextEra Energy Resources wind farm proposal.

For information on available sites, buildings and commercial space check out the Sites & Buildings section of the DCEDC website at www.dcedc.org.





DCEDC

421 N. California St.

Suite 200

Sycamore, IL

60178

Ph: 815/895-2711

F: 815/895-8713

borek@dcedc.org

www.dcedc.org

Meet our Staff

Vivian Spinoso joined DCEDC in 2005 as a part-time Secretary and Bookkeeper. Since then she has become an integral part of the team with her organized, quietly competent manner and her commitment to excellence in everything she does.

After obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from NIU, Vivian went to work at Midwest Orthopaedic Institute. She spent 24 years with MOI and became their Accounts Receivable Manager.

Married for 29 years and living in Sycamore, she and her husband have been active in community, school and church events while raising their 3 girls.

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