



TCEDA's TRACKING...



TCEDA Regional Map

Tri-County Economic Development Alliance (TCEDA) is a independent, nonprofit economic development corporation that proactively seeks to build business and employment opportunities for the economic growth and social well-being of people.

We lead, advocate, assist and encourage businesses, counties, communities and organizations in Jo Daviess, Carroll, and Whiteside Counties in Northwest Illinois.

Glossary - **What is a Small Business Development Center (SBDC)?**

Federal Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) provide a vast array of technical assistance to small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs. As a result of the no cost, extensive, one-on-one, long-term professional business advising, low-cost training and other specialized services SBDC clients receive, the program remains one of the nation's largest small business assistance programs

Save the Dates - Selling to the Federal Government

May 1, 2014 - The federal government purchases many products and services for federal agencies throughout the world. If your business would like to have the opportunity to sell to the federal government, join us for a series of three workshops that will instruct on how to register your business for the opportunity to bid on federal contract solicitations.

The workshops will be held on August 21, August 28 and September 4 at Manny's Pizza Restaurant in Savanna, IL from 10:00 - 1:00 pm. Each session is \$15 and includes lunch. Look for more details in the next TCEDA e-newsletter. If you would like more information on government contracting for small businesses, a training video is available online at <http://1.usa.gov/1IPRObW>.

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Bureau of Prisons Representative Visits Northwest Illinois Region

April 24, 2014 - The Fulton Chamber of Commerce hosted a Lunch and Learn with Rep. Cheri Bustos and Elizabeth Pottios, North Central Region representative from the Bureau of Prisons.

Rep. Cheri Bustos told the audience that she, along with Sen. Dick Durbin, have announced that the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) has committed \$53.7 million for the activation of Thomson prison. The funding was approved by Congress in January as part of the Omnibus Appropriations bill. She said of that funding, \$10 million is designated for renovation and \$43.7 million will be used for staffing and equipment purchases and upgrades.

Pottios said she understood the disappointment the community has felt regarding the prison over the years but assured everyone that the federal government wants the prison and remarked the prison will be in the community for a very long time. She also said no renovations or hiring can begin until the \$53.7 million is allocated.

Full activation of the prison is expected to take two years at a cost of \$25 million for upgrades and renovations and \$170 million for equipment and staffing.

in the federal government. The SBDCs are made up of a unique collaboration of SBA federal funds, state and local governments, and private sector resources.

SBDCs provide services through professional business advisors such as: development of business plans; manufacturing assistance; financial packaging and lending assistance; exporting and importing support; disaster recovery assistance; procurement and contracting aid; market research services; aid to 8(a) firms in all stages; and healthcare information.

Visit www.sba.gov for more information.

Activation of the prison will provide a major boost to the local economy and create more than 1,100 jobs. Rep. Bustos said officials estimate the annual economic impact on the area will be \$200 million.

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Tri-State Alliance (TSA) Hosts its 7th Annual Summit

April 23, 2014 - *Transporting People, Commerce, and Information for Regional Prosperity* is the theme of the 7th Annual Summit hosted at the Chicago Rockford International Airport on May 16 from 7:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Major topics include our region's scope and capabilities as it pertains to freight, a presentation on a multi-state broadband initiative, DOT leaders from each of the three states (IL, IA and WI) addressing freight, rail, and other transportation topics, and a specific presentation on Highway 20 expansion.

The mission of the Tri-State Alliance is to convene the region's leaders to address issues that affect commerce so that the quality of life is improved for the region of Northern Illinois, Northeastern Iowa, and Southwestern Wisconsin.

Attend and learn more about our regional economy linked by transportation and what we can do to build further prosperity. Register at <http://bit.ly/1iI7KCm> or call (815) 987-8100.

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Galena State Bank Renews TCEDA Membership

April 11, 2014 - Galena State Bank renewed its membership in TCEDA with a \$60,000 commitment over five years. "Small businesses employ the majority of the workforce in the TCEDA region and these businesses contribute significant tax revenues. The investment in TCEDA helps them to develop our business districts, which can serve as incubators for many small businesses," said Robert Eby, President and CEO of Galena State Bank.

"Today there is very competitive landscape when it comes to attracting and maintaining businesses in our communities so we must be very proactive and TCEDA is devoted to that mission," continued Eby.



Quick Links

www.tceda-nwil.org

www.bop.gov/jobs

www.usajobs.gov

www.sam.gov

www.fbo.gov

Did You Know that manufacturing workers have the highest job tenure in the private sector?

And that 78% of manufacturing workers get retirement contributions from employers?

Fabricators and Manufacturers Association



Robert Eby, President and CEO, Galena State Bank, presents a check for TCEDA membership to Lisa McCarthy, Executive Director of TCEDA

TCEDA is grateful to Galena State Bank for its continued and increasing support of economic development in the region.

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TCEDA's Conference & Annual Meeting

March 20, 2014 - TCEDA's Conference & Annual Meeting, *The Collaboration Economy*, featured a full morning of speakers including keynote speaker Richard Longworth, author of *Caught in the Middle*, as well as Norman Walzer, senior research scholar from the Center for Governmental Studies of Northern Illinois University; Craig Lindvahl, creator of the CEO entrepreneurial program; Brian McIntyre, director of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Rock Valley College; Larry Russell, mayor of Fulton, and Janet Ady, president and CEO of Ady Voltege.



Richard Longworth, author of *Caught in the Middle*



Norman Walzer, senior research scholar, Center for Government Studies at Northern IL University



Craig Lindvahl, executive director,
Midland Institute for Entrepreneurship



Janet Ady, president and CEO,
Ady Voldedge

Photos: Dan McCarthy

The afternoon featured a panel discussion with area business leaders and representatives from the manufacturing and agriculture sectors. A break out session allowed participants to apply the ideas of the morning sessions to the local economy.

When surveyed about the event, one attendee said they most liked "the civility, free expression, expert direction and advice."

Many thanks to our regional partners who donated information for the conference bags. Other partners supplied digital files and links with information about their programs. You can access the digital files at <http://bit.ly/1IWOrqf>.

New TCEDA committees have been formed to work on the issues raised at the Conference with 26 volunteers who have offered to participate. The committees are: Business Expansion/Aquisition, Education/Workforce Development, Political Advocacy and Infrastructure. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee, email lmccarthy@tceda-nwil.org or call 815-858-4491.

We thank all those who attended and participated, especially our table sponsors, Jo-Carroll Energy, Galena State Bank, Highland Community College, Prairie Ridge, MJ Galena, and Jo Daviess County. We appreciate the donations for our "Surprise & Delights" from Russ Simpson, John Cooke and the Dominican Sinsinawa Sisters for their delicious pies! Thanks to Marge Cook and Dan McCarthy for volunteering to help with registration and photography.

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TCEDA welcomes new members Rockfarm Logistics LLC, Invensys Controls, Howard Kerr, and William Jahnke. We appreciate your support!

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Special thanks to Rep. Brian Stewart who traveled our region to visit local businesses to learn about their goals and listen to their ideas about growing their companies and the local economy.

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Thanks to Elecia Walter, Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator at Jo-Carroll Energy, and planner *extraordinaire*. The Conference couldn't have happened without you! Thanks for your support.

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We welcome ideas from members and non-members. Let's execute to succeed!

Sincerely,

Lisa McCarthy
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lmccarthy@tceda-nwil.org

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