

## TCEDA's TRACKING...

### *A USP Thomson to Host Informational Event for Area Businesses*



### **TCEDA Regional Map**

The Tri-County Economic Development Alliance, Inc. (TCEDA) is a independent, private, nonprofit 501c(6) corporation formed to develop regional public/private partnerships to promote and encourage economic development in Jo Daviess, Carroll and Whiteside counties.

By combining the strengths of our businesses, counties, communities and organizations, we can compete globally for business expansion opportunities, and attract and retain businesses *to improve the quality of life for our residents.*



*February 25, 2015 -*

Representatives from the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and the Small Business Administration (SBA) will provide information and instructions on conducting business with the A USP Thomson on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Bureau of Prisons staff will discuss topics such as the federal procurement process, the System for Award Management (SAM), and the Federal Business Opportunity website (FedBizOpps.gov).

This is an open-hours event and presentations will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. The institution is located at 1100 One Mile Road, Thomson, Illinois.

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### *Regional Business Supplies Products and Services for A USP Thomson*

*February 5, 2015 -*

"I'm super excited" exclaimed Debbie Wiersman, owner of D&M Embroidery in Fulton, IL. Wiersman has added A USP Thomson to her list of customers she services nationwide. "When the prison was announced, I attended informational meetings to learn how to get a government contract. I wasn't sure how it applied to my business. Then I was approached by a Captain who works at the prison, who asked for a sample of my embroidery. Now I am filling orders on specialized, custom-designed apparel like polos, caps and jackets for several departments."



Her advice for businesses that are looking to contract with the government? "Plant a seed, be positive and accommodating. A USP Thomson is looking to work with local businesses. After 10 years my business continues to grow as my customers share their satisfaction with other people." You can learn more about Wiersman's company at <http://dmembroidery.com>.

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### *TCEDA Annual Meeting March 19 in Woodbine, IL*

TCEDA's Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19 from 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. at Woodbine Golf Course.



John R. Mecklenburg, CFRE, Retired Executive Vice President & CEO, SwedishAmerican Foundation in Rockford, IL will be our keynote speaker.

During his tenure, The Foundation's assets grew from \$2.8 million to more than \$17 million, while investing more than \$25 million of donor generated gifts in the local community. A signature project of his tenure was a \$4.6 million renovation

and restoration of an 81-block area surrounding SwedishAmerican Hospital. Prior to joining SwedishAmerican, Mecklenburg spent 20 years in fund development and public relations at public and private institutions of higher education.

Mecklenburg currently serves as a fund development, public relations and marketing consultant to nonprofit and for-profit clients, in addition to teaching in the Rockford University MBA program.

Our first, ever TCEDA awards will be presented to acknowledge Business Collaboration, Nonprofit Collaboration and a Community Collaborator. Join us for lunch and networking. Registration are available at [www.tceda-nwil.org](http://www.tceda-nwil.org) and are filling up quickly. March 9 is the last day to register so don't miss out on this event!

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### *Did You Know...?*

In 2010, 1.26 billion tons of goods moved from, to, and within the state of Illinois, with 11 percent of those moving on waterways. Illinois is the 5th largest state by population with a total of 12.9 million residents. 12.3 million of those live within 100 miles of major inland waterways, which include the Mississippi, Ohio and Illinois Rivers. In total there are approximately 317 manufacturing facilities, terminals and docks on the inland transportation system in Illinois.

The inland navigation system bordering Illinois utilizes 15 locks stretching over 580 miles on the Upper Mississippi River. Three deep draft harbors (Waukegan, Chicago and Calumet) provide access to domestic and international markets via the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway.

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### *Landlords and Real Estate Agents!*

Due to a demand for rental properties in our region, TCEDA has created a public database for relocators who are interested in finding rental properties in Northwest IL. Real estate agents, rental companies and landlords are invited to add their property information to the free, public database at <http://bit.ly/1uZAUnl>.

Don't forget to update and delete the information so the database remains current. Share this link with new community members looking for rental properties. For more information email [info@TCEDA-nwil.org](mailto:info@TCEDA-nwil.org) or call 885.858.4491.

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A special thank you to John Ambrose, Vice Chair of the TCEDA Board. We appreciate your insight, your advocacy and your philanthropy to our communities in NW IL. We will miss you and wish you well in retirement!

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### Quick Links

[www.tceda-nwil.org](http://www.tceda-nwil.org)

[www.bop.gov/jobs](http://www.bop.gov/jobs)

[www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)

[www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov)

[www.fedbizopps.gov](http://www.fedbizopps.gov)

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TCEDA thanks our renewing member Jo Daviess County, IL. Thanks for your continuing support. We appreciate your \$10,000 investment!



*Ron Smith, Jo Daviess County Board Chair and Merri Berlage, Vice Chair present a check to TCEDA Executive Director, Lisa McCarthy*

Thanks goes out to John and Marge Cooke, the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) and R.I.A. Credit Union for their generous membership renewals.

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*Sunrise in Jo Daviess County, IL*

Don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter for updates and economic information. Is there a topic you would like to see in our e-newsletter? Send me an email. We welcome ideas and feedback from members and non-members. Let's execute to succeed!

Sincerely,

*Lisa McCarthy*  
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