

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 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs)?

To assure that economic development initiatives come from communities, the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council requires each sponsoring county (Jo Daviess, Carroll, Whiteside, Stephenson and Ogle) to participate in the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) planning process.

A Government Website Worth Exploring

November 1, 2013 - Do you know a beginning farmer or rancher? Start2Farm.gov is a database of programs and resources that serve as a one-stop reference for anyone looking to begin farming or ranching and to be successful in their first years.

The Start2Farm site (www.start2farm.gov) and program are a project of the National Agricultural Library in partnership with the American Farm Bureau Federation. Start2Farm is funded through a USDA, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Beginning Farm and Ranching Development Program grant and was developed to assist people new to farming or ranching as well as those who have less than 10 years experience.

Start2Farm.gov does not provide training or funding, instead it functions as an information service to help aspiring farmers and ranchers easily find the programs and resources available to them. The site is easy to navigate and loaded with information.



The CEDS committee consists of a chairperson and a variety of volunteers recruited for their various economic interests and pursuits. The Committee works to ascertain the needs of the individual counties and communities. The chairpersons of each county committee, along with other regional economic development leaders, gather to form the Regional CEDS Committee project list.

Bi-monthly Regional CEDS Committee meetings are the forum to discuss each county's concerns and needs, and allow for networking and the exchange of information. This structure allows the Regional Council and the CEDS Committees to coordinate efforts to promote regional economic development.

Quick Links

www.tcedaonline.com

www.bop.gov/jobs

www.usajobs.gov



Start2Farm.gov

A special feature of the site is The Start2Farm Together program which organizes events for beginning farmer and rancher educators and service providers to help them share resources and best practices. To learn more about this service visit the Start2Farm Together pages.

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Save the Date!

November 1, 2013 - TCEDA's Regional Conference and Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 20. We are excited to host Richard Longworth, author of *Caught in the Middle: America's Heartland in the Age of Globalism*, as the keynote speaker.



Author Richard Longworth

Longworth, an Iowa native, graduated from Northwestern and won NU's Alumni Merit Award in 2000. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, won the Overseas Press Club award twice, for series on globalization and the UN, and was twice a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, in 1980 and 2003. He also has won every major national award for economic reporting, plus the Lowell Thomas award for a story on a camel trek through the Sahara Desert.

Logworth is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, has been a speaker at the Davos conferences and for five years was a mentor to StreetWise, Chicago's newspaper for the homeless.

Longworth is currently a senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. He joined the Council in 2003 as executive director of its Global Chicago Center after a career in journalism, most recently as senior correspondent for the Chicago Tribune. For 20 years, Longworth was a foreign correspondent for the Tribune and United Press International and was the Tribune's Chief European Correspondent. He has reported from 80 countries on five continents.

We want to know what you would like to learn about and discuss at the 2014 Conference! Besides our keynote speaker, we will have speakers on topics of interest, a panel discussion with local leaders and a break out session for brainstorming and next steps. Take our quick, three question survey of potential topics at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/G9PHHR6>.

The anonymous survey is available until through Friday, November 15.

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TCEDA's New Board of Directors

October 22, 2013 - TCEDA's Executive Committee has approved a new structure for the TCEDA Board to include representatives from various sectors of our region's economy. We welcome these new, distinguished Board members and look forward to working with them. Congratulations!

Charlie Letcher (Director of Manufacturing and Warehousing, Agri-King) - Whiteside County, representing the agriculture sector for a 2-year term.

Dr. Joe Kanosky (President, Highland Community College) - representing the education sector for 3-year term.

Robert Eby (President and CEO, Galena State Bank) - Jo Daviess County, representing the financial sector for a 3-year term.

Mike Dittmar - (Mayor of Elizabeth, IL) - Jo Daviess County, representing the government sector for a 1-year term.

Randy Boonstra - (City of Fulton City Council, Fulton, IL) - Whiteside County, representing the government sector for a 1-year term.

Vicky Trager - (Village President of Thomson, IL) - Carroll County, representing the government sector for a 3-year term.

Traci Bauer (President and CEO, Midwest Medical Center) - Jo Daviess County, representing the health care sector for a 2-year term.

Kurt Brunner (Carpenters Local #792) - representing the labor sector for a 2-year term.

John Ambrose (COO, Rentech) - Jo Daviess County, representing the manufacturing sector for a 2-year term.

Bill Jahnke (Board of Directors Treasurer, Lake Carroll) - Carroll County, representing the property associations for a 1-year term.

John Cooke (Retired) - Jo Daviess County, representing the real estate development sector for a 3-year term.

Michael Hastings (President and CEO, Jo-Carroll Energy) - Jo Daviess County, representing the utilities for a 3-year term.

We are pleased that Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Activation Coordinator Cathi Litcher, has agreed to join the Board upon retirement at the end of November for a 3-year term. She will join us via video at the Board meetings and continue to provide insight into the potential activation

of Thomson Prison.

Look for profiles of our new Board members in future issues of *TCEDA's Tracking*.

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We welcome new TCEDA members John and Marge Cooke of Galena, IL. Their generous membership investment shows that individuals, as well as businesses and organizations, are committed to the work of bringing jobs to our region. Thank you!

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Many thanks to Katherine Walker, Executive Director, Galena/Jo Daviess County Convention & Visitors Bureau and Doug Riedl, Investment Executive, Citizens Investment Services, for brainstorming ideas at the Jo Daviess County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) meeting. It was fun and I look forward to working to see the ideas become reality!

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Did you know that 95% of the businesses in Illinois employ fewer than 50 people? Despite a slowly growing economy, small businesses are contacting TCEDA to talk about expanding their businesses. If you know of a business that is looking to expand or to relocate, contact us!

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

Sincerely,

Lisa McCarthy
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