



Coming Attractions

News from the Cass County Economic Development Corporation

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October, 2011

Board Members

Jim Tertin
Dave Holk
Jay Cline
Terry Freeman
Bill Palmer
Cy Struss
Lanny Searcy
Marie Rose
Bob Gogleye

Ex-Officios

Bob Kangas
Jeff Peterson
Bob Yochum

Green Scene

Erin Andrus contacted Cass County EDC in the winter of 2007 regarding expanding their organic food business. The Cass County EDC assisted Erin with assistance in start-up assistance, financial and permitting questions. Erin also used the Small Cities Development Grant for building rehab. SCDP paid for siding, roofing, signage and landscaping for the proper drainage of the building. Green Scene opened their doors in Walker on June 1st, 2011. Green Scene currently employs 4.



“First meeting with the EDC set the groundwork for conceptual idea to fruition. If we hadn’t done that, it would have been a pipe dream.”
Erin Andrus, Green Scene

We recently completed a Job Creation survey to all businesses the Cass County EDC assisted since 2004.

- ⇒ 73 New Businesses since 2004
- ⇒ 645 New Jobs
- ⇒ \$42.8 Million in tax value of business property
- ⇒ \$12.28 Average Hourly Wage
- ⇒ 78% still currently in business



Computer Lab Ribbon Cutting October 18th at 3pm

Cass County EDC recently partnered with CLC, TDF Foundation, Pine River/Backus Schools, Hunt Utility Group and the Initiative Foundation to open the Community Outreach Computer Center in Pine River.

As part of our effort to decrease unemployment rates by increasing access to post secondary education, we are providing technology training for the next 12 months. Open computer lab hours are Monday thru Thursday, 4:00pm-6:00pm. We offer computer training Monday - Thursday from 6pm-9pm. Call us today for more information and to take advantage of this great opportunity!

Kline Electric, LLC



Kelly & Ronda Kline of Pine River contacted our office in July 2011 regarding their new electric business. Te Cass County EDC assisted Kelly & Ronda with information on how to set up a assumed name, LLC, Federal ID number, and answered questions on hiring employees. Kline Electric is currently in business and employs 1.

“Working with Cass County EDC provided additional reassurance in our business endeavor.”
Ronda Kline,
Kline Electric

Thank you to all who participated in our July Membership Blitz!

We would like to give a special Thank You to Hunt Utilities Group for increasing their membership!

BE A LEADER!

Cass County Economic Development Corporation’s Annual Meeting will be held on October 27th at Chase on the Lake in beautiful Walker, MN. Come and enjoy a fantastic meal and listen to the Commissioner of MN Employment & Economic Development, Mark Phillips.

Tickets are \$25.00 each. For reservations, please contact Kari at 218-947-7523 or email kari.loftus@co.cass.mn.us. We look forward to seeing you there!

SCDP Hackensack & Walker

If you are interested in learning more about the Small Cities Development Program for owner occupied rehab or commercial rehab, please call Danette at (218)751-4631 for a application.

October, 2011

Note from the Executive Director



Baby Steps: Our economy is in the recovery phase as I have a healthy list of new projects in progress! Like a baby taking small steps, these businesses will require many small helping steps. It is exciting to read about the small steps this quarter – an approved bonding request for healthcare, a computer center at a college outreach site and funding for manufacturing jobs. Outside agencies – MN State Legislature, USDA, CLC and TDF Foundation – all believe in Cass County.

Owner investment, lender commitment, public incentives, and appropriate planning and zoning decisions are the next steps. **As a community we need to take the lead** – be ready and flexible to take these steps!

Whatever happens in Cass County will depend on our own enthusiasm and investment. **BE A LEADER!**



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Bonding Change Approved

We are very happy that the MN State Legislature continues to back us in redeveloping the former Ah-Gwah-Ching site. Late in the special session, the Capital Investment Committee approved a change to the existing language that will allow the city of Walker or Cass County to use \$125,000 of funding for redevelopment at the site.

What will this bring? Funding for surveys, platting and public infrastructure to lower the development cost of a future healthcare facility at the site.

Thank you, Rep. Howes, for your kind assistance. The Cass County EDC looks forward to using this new tool to continue the project.

Questions or comments?

Contact us!

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A Community Non—Profit Corporation

“To improve the business environment of Cass County by encouraging a strong, diverse and sustainable economy and to build better relationships between business, government agencies and local communities.”

Cass County Economic Development Corporation is a satellite site for the North Central Regional Small Business Development Center!

MINNESOTA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS



Bill Hansen, Sr.— Why I Became A Member

Why You Became A Member: It’s important! Helps businesses get started. Knows what is going on in the economy and the County.

How Long Have You Been A Member of Cass County EDC: Bill Hansen, Sr. has been a member since 2005.

What Has Been The Impact Of Your Membership: Brings people into the community and stimulates the real estate market.

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Invite a Friend to Become a Member Today

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Gold Sponsor \$ 5,000 and over per year
- Sponsor \$ 2,500 and over per year
- VIP Partner \$1,500 per year
- Key Partner \$ 1,000 per year
- Partner \$500 per year
- Business Member \$250 per year
- Individual Member \$100 per year

Membership Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Representative Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone : _____

Payment Enclosed Please send annual invoice

Automatic Monthly Withdrawal

The Cass County EDC is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Provider

