



Volume 7 Number 1

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OED advances the business prosperity of Ozaukee County collaborating with community regional and business partners ensuring a growing and diversified economy.



**Ozaukee Economic Development
8th Annual Outreach Event
Wednesday, April 29, 2015**

**Networking 4:30— 5:30 Program 5:30—7:00
The Watermark at Shully's**

**Featured Speaker
Tom Shannon, President
BrightStar Wisconsin**

The Outreach event provides an excellent opportunity for business executives throughout Ozaukee County to connect with local government representatives in an informal setting. There will be complimentary hor d'oeuvres, cash bar and a great networking opportunity. The program begins with a brief update on OED activities and followed by our speaker Tom Shannon.

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Please RSVP on or before Wednesday, April 22nd, jhill@co.ozaukee.wi.us or 262.338.7730

Come follow OED on Social Media!



As part of our efforts to engage a broader audience, OED is actively engaging in social media. We hope you will check us out and “like” or “follow” us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. On Facebook and LinkedIn, just search for Ozaukee Economic Development and you will find us. For Twitter, search for @OzEconDev. The more you interact with us, the greater audience we will reach. Please help us out by connecting with us on any or all of these social media platforms.

On Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, we will be offering Small Business Tip Tuesday, Workplace Education Wednesday and OED Thought for Thursday. We will also share links and useful information for local businesses and acknowledge their accomplishments. If you have anything you would like to share, simply send an email to Katie Culotta at kculotta@co.ozaukee.wi.us.

Affordable Care Seminar

OED, in partnership with the Ozaukee County Chambers of Commerce, MATC-North Campus, and the Small Business Administration, hosted a seminar on the Affordable Care Act on February 3rd. The program focused on what the new law means for small businesses. It was jointly presented by Tammie Clendenning of the Small Business Administration and Danielle Cotereel of Covering Kids and Family, an advocate for individuals and businesses on the new law.

The presentation highlighted the law’s new benefits to small businesses including increased access to health insurance and lower premium cost growth. The law affects businesses differently dependent on their size. For employers with 24 or fewer FTE (Full Time Equivalent) employees, they can receive a small business health care tax credit to help offset costs. There are requirements for the businesses including average annual wages and company contributions towards premium costs. For those companies that qualify, they can receive up to 50% in a federal tax credit. For employers with up to 50 FTE employees, they can utilize the federally-facilitated SHOP (Small Business Health Options Program) Marketplace. The new SHOP Marketplace has an open enrollment period throughout the year for new group enrollment. Employers of less than 50 employees are not required under the new state law to provide employer-provided healthcare. For employers of 50 or more employees, employer shared responsible health care must be provided.

The program took businesses through the process of utilizing the federal SHOP Marketplace and the facilitators answered questions from businesses about the specific effects of the law. 50 people attended the program at MATC’s—North Campus.

Thanks to all program sponsors: Cedarburg Chamber of Commerce, Fredonia Chamber of Commerce, Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce, Mequon-Thiensville Chamber of Commerce, Port Washington Chamber of Commerce, Saukville Chamber of Commerce and MATC—North Campus.

For more information on the new law, check out resources at www.healthcare.gov; www.sba.gov/healthcare or www.irs.gov/aca.



Tammie Clendenning



Danielle Cotereel



Meet Katie Culotta...

We are excited to welcome Katie Culotta to Ozaukee Economic Development as the new Marketing and Business Coordinator. She will be working to assist with social media, networking, and increased educational opportunities.

Katie has lived in Ozaukee County for eight years and recognizes that it is an amazing place for business opportunities. She will work to encourage new business development and support all businesses as they continue to grow and thrive.

Katie is originally from Illinois and lives in Cedarburg with her husband and three children. She graduated from St. Norbert College with a B.A. in Political Science and Psychology and completed a M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Maryland in Criminology and Criminal Justice. After spending many years in higher education, she left academia and began working as a public affairs consultant. She has always been interested in the many factors that shape the health of a community including economics, education, health, etc. She believes that investing in the economic development of our county is one way we can keep this community healthy. She is excited to put her knowledge into practice by working for OED .

Katie is looking forward to meeting you. If you have any ideas or concerns you would like to share, please contact her at kculotta@co.ozaukee.wi.us or 262.268.7731.

7th Annual Manufacturing and Career Fair Shows Students Options

Ozaukee Economic Development, the Waukesha-Ozaukee-Washington Workforce Development Board and the Mequon—Thiensville School District partnered together to hold the County's 7th Annual Manufacturing and Career Fair at Homestead High School on March 24th.

The fair hosted fifteen area businesses which highlighted programs and careers within Manufacturing. The goal was to introduce high school students to opportunities within the industry and local businesses. Over 175 students attended. Businesses highlighted areas of need and training required. Fred Nicora, Employee Development Manager of Carlson Tool stated that "it was great for businesses to have the chance to meet with tomorrow's workforce and discuss the abundant opportunities in American Manufacturing."

Students came to the fair with a questionnaire that would prompt conversations with companies on their products. Companies also discussed career pathways with the students looking at opportunities directly out of high school, high school plus two years of education or high school plus four years focusing on areas of study that may help lead them to future opportunities with area businesses.

Matt Wolf, a Business Education Teacher at Homestead noted that "the fair was a fantastic opportunity for our high school students to meet a variety of professionals in a range of career fields. I believe our students eyes were opened to a variety of careers they did not even know existed prior to this day. The day helped educate students, so they can see all of their options for a career after high school. "

For more information on the program or to be part of next year's fair, contact Kathleen Schilling at 262.238.7730 or kschilling@co.ozaukee.wi.us.



Saukville Business Forum

The Village of Saukville, in partnership with OED, held its annual Village Business Forum on Wednesday, March 4th. The program was held at Oldenburg Metal Tech in the Industrial Park. This year's program focused on potential business partnerships and available programs to assist businesses grow. Barb Dickmann, Village President, kicked off the event with a welcome on behalf of Saukville. Presentations were given by Marilyn Haroldson, Community Development Consultant for the Village, Amanda Kelsey, Employer Relationship Specialist with Waukesha-Ozaukee-Washington (WOW) Workforce Development and Kathleen Schilling, Executive Director of OED.

Marilyn began by giving the group a snapshot of the new developments that are occurring in the Village and the land available for development. Amanda gave an overview of the workforce development programs, including the On The Job Training and TIME Grant programs, which can pay for a portion of an employee's wages during their initial training period. Lastly, Kathleen gave highlights on the County and State programs available to local businesses including low interest loans and tax credits.

Bob Oldenburg, President of Oldenburg Metal Tech, then spoke of his experience in moving to Saukville in 2014. As part of Oldenburg Metal Tech's expansion, they purchased a company in Saukville utilizing the County and Village RLF programs and the low interest loan program available through Port Washington State Bank. This expansion has allowed the company to maintain its current 9,000 square foot building and also to purchase a new 16,000 square foot building. The expansion has allowed them to add 15 new employees. Bob also highlighted some of the new partnerships Oldenburg has created with its neighbors in the Industrial Park, including new sales and outsourcing contracts. Following a plant tour, the group reconvened and businesses gave a brief snapshot of their companies as well as potential areas where partnerships could be created. The meeting highlighted an increasing need for employees and employee training. The Village and OED will be working with these businesses to see what types of partnerships can be created.

Barb Dickmann noted, "We are happy to have OED be part of these business/government forums which allow the two groups a chance to interact and work together on issues affecting them."



Barb Dickmann



Marilyn Haroldson



Amanda Kelsey



Bob Oldenburg



OED Welcomes New Board Member...

OED is happy to welcome Dan Becker to our Board of Directors. Dan is a long-time resident of Port Washington. He is President of X-Cell Tooling, Inc. He is also a member of the Ozaukee County Board and Port Washington City Council. Dan serves on the finance committee for Ozaukee County and is committed to making sure that the County provides the best services for the least cost to taxpayers. He is an active member of St. Peter of Alcantra parish and the Port Washington Lions Club and Knights of Columbus.

OED is happy to welcome Dan to our Board.