



Champaign County. Midwestern Roots. World-Class Expectations.

Who We Are

The Champaign County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) is a public-private partnership dedicated to fostering a cooperative, county-wide approach to economic development. We coordinate with a number of other key organizations in the area to promote an environment in which business thrives.

Champaign County First Trip

Craig Rost, our Executive Director, joined the Champaign County Chamber of Commerce and other community stakeholders for the annual Champaign County First trip to Washington D.C., June 6-8.



Champaign County First is a united countywide effort to identify projects and/or initiatives that, when successfully completed, will greatly

Final Tier II Committee Report for Unit 4 Schools

We were happy to participate on the Tier II Committee for Unit 4 Schools, charged with the following:

The charge of the Tier Two Committee is to review recommendations from Tier One and, based on this information, provide recommendations to the Board of Education in the following areas: location of facilities, collaborations/partnerships with other public entities in the Champaign Unit #4 District, and finance/referendum schedule.

Since February, the group has met to discuss the charge and recently submitted the Final Report to the Unit 4 School Board. View the final report

New EDC Board Members

At our Board of Directors meeting last week (the last of FY16), we welcomed new Board members for FY17, starting July 1, and thanked our outgoing Board members for their years of service to the EDC.

New FY17 Board members:

Scott Miller, *Dash Management*

Bill Walter, *A&R Mechanical*

Mandi Shelmadine, *Grainger*

Kevin Sage, *ECI Building & Construction Trades Council*

David Farrar, *Illinois American Water*

benefit the citizens of Champaign County; spur economic development; and improve the quality of life in Champaign County. Champaign County First partners are committed to advocating on behalf of the identified projects at the local, state and/or federal level with one voice in order to transform Champaign County.

Rost and others met with Amtrak, Senator Richard Durbin's office, Senator Mark Kirk's office, the United States Department of Transportation, and Congressman Rodney Davis, among others. Projects discussed: high speed rail, passenger rail, I-57/74 interchange, road and sewer improvements, and more.

Illinois Growth & Innovation Fund

On Thursday, June 16, we hosted Joe Aguilar, Deputy Director - Investment Analysis and Due Diligence for Illinois State Treasurer Michael W. Frerichs, at our office for two info sessions about the Illinois Growth and Innovation Fund (IGIF). We had a total of 38 attendees.

The underlying goal of the Illinois Growth and Innovation Fund (IGIF) is to leverage state dollars to help attract, assist, and retain quality technology businesses in Illinois, which is expected to spur economic growth and job creation while earning investment returns for Illinois residents.

IGIF Goals:

- Deliver strong investment performance for Illinois
- Drive economic development for Illinois
- Foster a more connected and engaged entrepreneurial community in Illinois

To learn more about the IGIF, visit their [website](#) and/or view the documents below.

[IGIF Fact Sheet](#) & [IGIF Graphic Snapshot](#)

Our outgoing Board members:

Lori Gold Patterson , *Pixo*
(2011 - 2016, served as FY14 Board Chair)

Jeff Keiper , *F.E. Moran Fire Protection*
(2015 - 2016)

Kerris Lee, *Midland States Bank*
(2015 - 2016)

Matt Langendorf, *ECI Building & Construction Trades Council*
(2014 - 2016)



[here](#).

For more information about the Tier II Committee and to view past agendas and minutes, visit the [website](#).

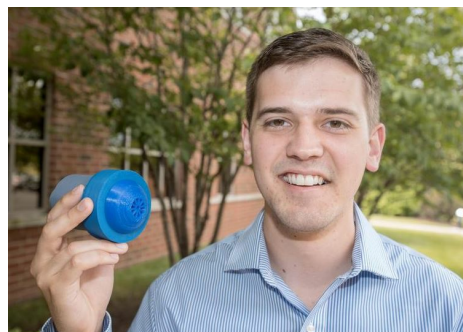
The Unit 4 Board of Education will host two Town Hall Meetings on June 23 and July 14 to gather community input on the school facility plans under consideration. Learn more [here](#).

Good News to Share



MakerGirl Goes Mobile

Thanks to a successful Kickstarter campaign, MakerGirl has gone mobile! Since hitting the road on June 1, the team has hosted over [20 3D printing sessions and impacted over 300 girls across the country](#).



Local Companies in Press

IntelliWheels is an innovation house for wheelchair technologies. Fit Grips, their flagship product, can be found in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, and many more locations. They are close to shipping their 2,000th pair.



Carle Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Building

The [new Carle orthopedics & sports medicine building](#) is moving along on schedule and is set to open in 2017.

The specially designed 52,000

MakerGirl is a start-up out of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign that inspires girls from the ages of 7 to 10 to be active in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields through 3D printing sessions. These sessions give girls the opportunity to creatively design on the computer and then watch their designs physically come to life.

MakerGirl is a 2016 Innovation Celebration award finalist.

Follow the trip on their website & stay up-to-date with photos on their Facebook page.

Featured photo: MakerGirl

Read more about the company via Smile Politely.

Quicket Solutions is one of the first to bring the tremendous benefits and cost savings of cloud computing technology to law enforcement. The company is a 2016 Innovation Celebration finalist located in the University of Illinois Research Park.

Faster ticket technology helps police - featured on WCIA 3 News.

Amber Waves

Lucas Frye, CEO of Amber Waves, has developed a sensor that monitors the interior of a grain bin. Summer plans for the company? Field tests.

Read more about the company, their technology, and their future plans via The News-Gazette.

Featured photo: Rick Danzl/The News-Gazette

square-foot building will include offices and exam rooms as well as a therapy gym with sports enhancement training to provide appropriate space for patients who also need additional room for crutches or braces as they rehabilitate from injury or surgery.

Read more about building progress via The News-Gazette: <http://www.news-gazette.com/news/local/2016-06-15/carle-building-schedule-champaign.html>

To learn about all of Carle's expansion projects, visit their website.

Featured photo: Heather Coit/The News-Gazette

Did You Know?

Tiesta Tea has University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ties. It all started when Dan Klein & Patrick Tannous discovered their love for loose-leaf tea while exploring Prague during a study abroad trip. After returning from the trip, they started selling tea out of Klein's dorm room at UIUC. Now their products can be found in 7,000 stores.

They were recently featured in Crain's Chicago.

Visit their company website to learn more about their history and products.



Upcoming Events



TechMix! at Capital One Illinois Digital Campus Lab

Thursday, June 30, 2016
5 - 7 pm

Join us for TechMix! at Capital One Illinois Digital Campus Lab!



SBDC Workshop: Starting Your Business in Illinois

Tuesday, July 12, 2016
3 - 5 pm

Session Description:

This informative 2-hour workshop helps entrepreneurs understand many of the steps and requirements of

Capital One Illinois Digital Campus Lab
(at University of Illinois Research Park)
2100 S. Oak Street
Champaign, IL 61820

At this TechMix! event, you'll have the opportunity to tour the Illinois Digital Campus Lab and learn about their work. Bonus: they are currently hiring for full-time positions.

About the Event: TechMix! events are organized by the Champaign County Economic Development Corporation as a networking opportunity for local technology professionals and companies to meet each other. These events are targeted for engineers, scientists, and entrepreneurs working in the tech sector to learn more about other companies in the industry locally.

Free to attend. Appetizers and drinks will be served.

Sponsored by: Capital One Illinois Digital Campus Lab

starting a small business in Illinois. You'll be taken step-by-step through a variety of topics and have the opportunity to ask questions.

Speaker:
Don Elmore, SBDC Director

In this seminar, you'll learn:

- Introduction to the Illinois Small Business Development Center at Champaign County EDC
- Feasibility
- How to create or improve your business plan - an important part of starting a small business
- Startup costs, ongoing expenses, and forecasting
- Business structure
- Financing and grant options

Registration:
Free to attend, registration required to secure a spot - limited space available. Materials will be provided. RSVP to carly@champaigncountyedc.org or 217-359-6261.

Workshop Location:
Illinois Small Business Development Center at
Champaign County EDC
1817 S. Neil Street, Suite 100
Champaign, IL 61820

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