

# ED UPDATE a monthly news source of the OAC Economic Development Task Force



THOUGH OFFICALLY ASSUMING THE ROLE OF CHAMBER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2004, I STILL MAINTAINED MY POST OF CHAIR OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE UNTIL NEW CHAIR POSITIONS ARE ASSIGNED AND APPROVED AT THE NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING. TO THAT END, LET ME UPDATE YOU ON ECONOMIC HAPPENINGS THAT ARE TAKING PLACE AS I WRITE. - Boyd Palmer

## ED Task Force Members

**Bernard Anderson**

Nicor Gas

**Dan Aussem**

IV Labor Management

**Walter Breipohl**

Kaszynski Breipohl

**Tom Duttlinger**

Etscheid Duttlinger & Associates

**Robert Eschbach**

Mayor, City of Ottawa

**William Franklin**

Retired

**Pam Furlan**

BEST

**Jamie Gahm**

IVCC

**John Grieves**

Grieves Construction

**Don Harris**

First National Bank

**Dave Harvey**

IDES

**Van Jackson**

Old Second Bank Ottawa

**Steve King**

Fairmount Minerals Wedron

**Colt Landreth**

Plaza Property Advisors

**Dave Noble**

City Engineer, City of Ottawa

**Colby Sawin**

Ameren IP

**John Stone**

Hydromat

**Andy Wagner**

LaSalle County Farm Supply

## Commissioners

Dale Baxter

Wayne Eichelkraut

William Walsh

Edward Whitney

## Chamber Executive Director

Boyd Palmer

**F**IRST, I HAVE INSTITUTED WEEKLY BREAKFASTS WITH OUR CITY ENGINEER, DAVID NOBLE. THIS GIVES US BOTH A QUIET TIME TO DISCUSS AND REVIEW CURRENT AND PENDING PROJECTS AND HAS BEEN VERY BENEFICIAL. THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE CHAMBER HAS NEVER BEEN STRONGER!

**A** LETTER OF INTENT HAS BEEN SIGNED BY A HI-TECH MANUFACTURING FACILITY TO LOCATE IN OUR INDUSTRIAL PARK. THEY WILL EMPLOY 50 AT VERY GOOD WAGES.

**T**HE CITY HAS BEEN AWARDED STATE GRANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS: PILKINGTON, PET SMART, STARVED ROCK RESORT, AND CLOVER TECHNOLOGIES. THE CITY IS WORKING TO SECURE ANOTHER \$900,000.00 EDA GRANT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE PILKINGTON PROJECT.

### Mark your calendar for these upcoming Chamber sponsored events!

Tuesday, November 9, 2004

State of the City Address

12:00-1:30pm

Knights of Columbus Hall

Tickets are \$15/person

Contact the Chamber to reserve today!

Tuesday, November 23, 2004

Business After Hours

Sponsored by Union Bank

Look for more information soon!

**O**ther meetings were held with the Staubach Company, which represents a call-center client, to occupy the south-side reliable building with a retail developer.

**T**here are constant inquiries coming into both the Chamber and City. These are exciting times for us "Economic Development Types" and we hope to bring these projects to completion which will add quality jobs for our work force and income to our city.

**M**r. Anthony Pricco, Vice President of McShane Corporation (Developers for Pet Smart), was guest speaker for the Chamber's Economic Development Task Force. The Task Force also welcomed Mr. Andy Wagner from LaSalle County Farm Supply as its newest member. The Task Force is looking to add members from our local high schools. Educational skills are a factor when we are in negotiations with prospective industrial clients.

### Want to be impressed?

TAKE A DRIVE TO THE NEW PET SMART LOCATION AT- DAYTON RD AND CHAMPLAIN STREET. IT'S A SITE TO BEHOLD!

LaSalle County has 98.3 persons per square mile. The state average is 223.4