

Pike County  
Economic Development Corporation  
1301 E Washington, PO Box 214  
Pittsfield, IL 62363  
217-440-5101  
www.pikeedc.org

### Important Reminder!

Set up your Email Spam Filter  
to accept:

[bmiddendorf@pikeedc.org](mailto:bmiddendorf@pikeedc.org)

This will ensure timely delivery of  
any email correspondence you may  
receive from PCEDC.

2015-2016  
PCEDC Board of Directors

Jim Brown  
Craig Gengler  
Kent Goewey  
Lance Kendrick  
Patrick Conley  
Steve Schaefer  
Jim Sheppard  
Karrie Spann  
Robert Wood

2015 PCEDC Officers  
Chairman: Jim Brown  
Vice-Chair: Lance Kendrick  
Secretary: Karrie Spann  
Treasurer: Jim Sheppard



## VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1—WINTER 2016

Welcome to the Winter 2016 edition of *Development Matters*, a newsletter of the Pike County Economic Development Corporation. As a valued member and supporter of PCEDC, you will receive this newsletter to help keep you informed of our activities and possible opportunities for businesses and area organizations. We hope that you will find the information useful and beneficial.

PCEDC is dedicated to our mission to support and expand business and employment by improving the quality of life, utilizing our human and natural resources, and by promoting communication and partnerships throughout Pike County.



Brenda Middendorf  
Interim Exec. Director

### Interim EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Most of you are aware that I am filling in as PCEDC Board Interim Director. Using an interim director can be helpful because it allows the responsibilities to be carried forward while the organization assesses its needs and searches for the right person. The Board recognizes that hiring the wrong person is one of the most damaging and costly (in every sense of the word) mistakes an organization can make. Since becoming privatized, PCEDC has been fortunate that we have always had high caliber Executive Directors, beginning with Shawn Rennecker and most recently Gina Sheurman. The PCEDC Board will continue in this tradition of top quality leadership. The Interim appointment will buy time to complete this search to find just the right person. We want to assure our members that during this time, work will continue towards the mission of PCEDC. We have made great strides in supporting and expanding business and employment opportunities here in Pike County. This is largely in part because of the many collaborative efforts on the part of the PCEDC members. PCEDC is blessed to have competent, professional members who are dedicated to seeing Pike County prosper.

We thank you for your patience and support and your willingness to be part of the team that makes Pike County a great place to live and work.



## 4th Annual Inventor & Small Business Expo

Saturday, February 20th, 2016

9AM—2PM

Pike County Farm Bureau  
Pittsfield, IL

### AGENDA

- 8:45-9:00 Registration
- 9:00-9:15 Welcome & Overview of the Day
- 9:15-10:30 Marketing Presentation
- 10:45-11:25 Business Basics Presentation
- 11:30-12:00 Taxes
- 12:00-12:45 Networking Lunch
- 12:45-1:45 Panel Discussion
- 1:45-2:00 Wrap-up and Q&A



This event has been developed to provide an opportunity for local inventors, entrepreneurs, and small business owners to access technical assistance and exposure for their products and business. If you are interested in displaying a product or service in the exhibit area or if you are interested in attending this event, please contact:

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Pittsfield, IL 62363  
Phone: 217-440-5101  
Email: [bmiddendorf@pikcedc.org](mailto:bmiddendorf@pikcedc.org) / [www.pikcedc.org](http://www.pikcedc.org)

Find us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/InventorSmallBusinessExpo](http://www.facebook.com/InventorSmallBusinessExpo)

# NEW IL BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FORMED

## Governor Announces Formation of Non-Profit Economic Development Organization

Governor Rauner recently announced in his State of the State address that leaders at the [Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity](#) (IDCEO) and business stakeholders will collaborate in organizing a newly formed private, non-profit organization focusing exclusively on increasing Illinois' competitiveness for job creation and investment. The creation of a private economic development organization was a key recommendation of the Governor's bipartisan transition committee last year.

The new [Illinois Business and Economic Development Corporation](#) (ILBEDC), modeled from best practices of other successful state and local economic development organizations, will focus on sales, marketing, and customer service. It will work at the speed of business and maintain lean, efficient operations. The corporation will be governed by a diverse board of experienced economic development will be governed by a diverse board (currently under development) of experienced economic development and business leaders.

The ILBEDC is a private organization seeking 501(c)(3) status. The Governor will sign an executive order in coming days to formally establish its relationship with the IDCEO. The formation of the ILBEDC and its operations (at least through FY16) will be funded by private donations. IDCEO will continue to work with companies on expansion and relocation efforts, until the ILBEDC is operational.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO RON MOUNTAIN & MARK SPRINGER



Another opportunity for economic growth in Pike County. A new 9,306 head feeder to market barn with new technologies for animal care and environmental stewardship. Thanks to owners Mark Springer & Ron Mountain and their families for growing your business.

According to the National Pork Board, 10,500 jobs are created in Illinois through the pork industry.

Congratulations on your business expansion!!!

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Contact our office for more information on these and other funding opportunities.

### Scotts Miracle-Gro: GRO1000 Grassroots Grants

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company's GRO1000 Grassroots Grants help foster the development of gardens and green spaces in the United States. Grants of up to \$1,500 are awarded to local communities throughout the country to help bring edible gardens, flower gardens, and public green spaces to more neighborhoods. The focus is on garden and green space beautification projects that incorporate the involvement and engagement of neighborhood residents and foster a sense of community spirit. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies.

Deadline: February 22, 2016. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Dollar General Literacy Foundation

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation supports nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and libraries that offer literacy programs in communities served by Dollar General in 40 states. Currently, the Foundation is accepting grant requests through the following programs: Adult Literacy Grants support nonprofit organizations that provide direct services to adults in need of literacy assistance. Family Literacy Grants support family literacy service providers that combine parent and youth literacy instruction. Summer Reading Grants help nonprofit organizations and libraries with the implementation or expansion of summer reading programs for students who are new readers, below grade level readers, or readers with learning disabilities. Deadline: February 25, 2016. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Distance Learning & Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program

USDA Rural Development's DLT grant program helps rural communities use the unique capabilities of telecommunications to connect to each other and to the world, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density. For example, this program can link teachers and medical service providers in one area to students and patients in another. 100% grant applications are accepted through a competitive process. Applicants are required to provide a minimum 15 percent match. Awards can range from \$50,000 to \$500,000. Deadline: March 14, 2016. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Kessler Foundation: Signature Employment Grants

The Kessler Foundation's Signature Employment Grants provide support for non-traditional solutions that increase employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities. Grants ranging from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per year for up to two years are awarded nationally to fund pilot initiatives, demonstration projects, or social ventures that lead to the generation of new ideas to solve the high unemployment and underemployment of individuals with disabilities. Preference is given to interventions that overcome specific employment barriers related to long-term dependence on public assistance, advance competitive employment in a cost-effective manner, or launch a social enterprise or individual entrepreneurship project. Nonprofit organizations, public or private schools, and public institutions, such as universities and government agencies, based in the United States or any of its territories, are eligible to apply. Deadline: March 18, 2016. Click [here](#) for more

## EVENT CALENDAR

### February

Saturday, February 20, 2016

4th Annual Inventor & Small Business Expo

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pike County Farm Bureau Auditorium

1301 E Washington

Pittsfield, IL

Monday, February 22, 2016

PCEDC Monthly Executive Business Meeting

5:30pm

Pike County Farm Bureau Conference Room

1301 E Washington

Pittsfield, IL

Monday, February 22, 2016

Pike County Board Meeting

7:30 pm

Upper Courtroom

Monday, February 29, 2016

Orr Research Annual Meeting

11:30

Orr Center

Rte. 104

Perry, IL

PCEDC Quarterly Board Meeting

5:30pm

Pike County Farm Bureau

Monday, December 28, 2015

Pike County Board Meeting

7:00pm

Upper Courtroom

Pike County Courthouse

### March

Monday, March 7, 2016

PCEDC on WBBA Spotlight Show

9:00 am

97.5 FM WBBA Radio

Wednesday, March 9 &

Thursday, March 10, 2016

IIRA Rural Economic Community Development

Conference

Crowne Plaza

Springfield, IL

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

March 20, 21, 22, 23

Governor's Conference on Tourism

Springfield, IL

Monday, March 28

PCEDC Quarterly Business Meeting

5:30 pm

Pike County Farm Bureau Conference Room

1301 E Washington

Pittsfield, IL 62363



### NOT A MEMBER OF PCEDC...JOIN US TODAY!

It is because of the generosity of business and community partners that we are able to fulfill our mission to enhance the economic future and quality of life in Pike County by expanding employment opportunities through promoting the expansion and retention of business and industry, coordinating local and state resources to existing businesses, and by uniting Pike County community by coordinating economic development activities and cultivating partnerships. We are fortunate to have many great partnerships in the area that have helped us to promote economic development. If you are not part of our growing

Individual / Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership Level:*

Individual Contributor (\$1-\$99)     Associate Member (\$100-\$499)

Voting Member (\$500-\$999)     Municipal Member (\$1 per capita: \_\_\_\_\_)

Sustaining Member (\$1000-\$1999)     Premier Member (\$2000+)

Reciprocal (with approval) \_\_\_\_\_

*More information on membership benefits is available by visiting [www.pikecdc.org](http://www.pikecdc.org)*

### A Few Reminders!!

**Don't forget to tune in to 97.5FM WBBA Radio on the first Monday of every month at 9am to hear PCEDC on the Spotlight Show!**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**2016 Inventor & Small Business Expo**

**Saturday, February 20, 2016**

**Pike County Farm Bureau**

**Find us on Facebook and Follow us on Twitter!**