

# THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE

## Upcoming Events in Kosciusko County

Take advantage of free one-on-one business assistance provided in Warsaw by the South Bend Small Business Development Center and Kosciusko Development Inc. Tuesday, December 6. Call 267-6311 to schedule a one hour counseling session.

## Interesting Links

IDEM's Recycling Market Development Program  
[www.in.gov/recycle/5745.htm](http://www.in.gov/recycle/5745.htm)

## President's Point of View Joy McCarthy-Sessing CEcD

All employers need to be aware of federal legislation entitled "Employee Free Choice Act," also known as the "card check" bill (H.R. 800, S. 1041). Essentially this proposed legislation would abolish secret ballot election for the purpose of unionization and replaces it with a process that requires signature only. Under card check, if union organizers can persuade more than 50% of workers at a facility to sign cards, they win.

There are several other ramifications to this proposed legislation, including changes in collective bargaining. The Warsaw/Kosciusko Co. Chamber's Board of Directors has taken a position against this legislation.

To learn more, log onto [www.uschamber.com](http://www.uschamber.com), under Issue Library, click on Labor & Workplace. Please contact federal legislators!

## CAROLINA CARPORTS, INC.

**Carolina Carports, Inc.** recently located a new division in Etna Green. The company was founded in 1997, and their primary function is manufacturing metal structures for family and business use. The company is headquartered in Dobson, North Carolina with several other sales and manufacturing divisions located throughout the United States. Commitment to product quality and excellence in customer service is the driving force behind the growth and success of Carolina Carports, Inc. Currently in Etna Green, the company has hired 5 new employees and plans to add more jobs.

**Kosciusko Development Inc. (KDI)** located the building for this project. The former Wausau Homes facility had been empty for over two years. KDI assisted with marketing the building to prospective businesses. For more information about this company: [www.carolinacarportsinc.com](http://www.carolinacarportsinc.com)

**KDI and the Chamber of Commerce are conducting a 2008 Wage Survey for Kosciusko County. We are asking county-wide businesses to complete the survey on line.**

[www.kdi-in.com](http://www.kdi-in.com)

**J & B Pallet Company** moved to their new facility at 711 South Buffalo St., Warsaw, to accommodate their expanding business and the need for extra space to diversify for future growth. The family-owned business supplies its customers with everything from pallets to packaging supplies. For the past 30 years, J & B Pallet Company has strived to be more than just a leading pallet and packaging supplier in Northern Indiana. They offer value, reliability, and a level of customer service that translates into more efficient and cost effective operations. For more information contact: [sales@jbpaletteco.com](mailto:sales@jbpaletteco.com)

## Paragon Medical, Inc. will expand in Pierceton

Paragon Medical, Inc. announced plans to expand in Pierceton. The project could create up to 25 new jobs in Pierceton. They are building a new 20,000 sq. ft. addition to its existing manufacturing location. The \$3.5 million dollar project is scheduled to be completed by March 2009. Paragon is a supplier of world-class solutions for custom and standard cases and trays and instrumentation for medical device companies. [www.paragonmedical.com](http://www.paragonmedical.com)

## The Papers Inc.

The Papers Inc., has acquired 10 publications in Indiana Kentucky and Tennessee. It's corporate printing facilities and headquarters are located in Milford. A total of 58 employees have joined the 285 employees of The Papers. The Papers Inc. is striving to maintain a strong presence in its market niche.

[www.the-papers.com](http://www.the-papers.com)

## Skills Enhancement Fund

The **Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF)** provides financial assistance to businesses committed to training their workforce. Trainees must be Indiana residents. SEF reimburses eligible training expenses over a two-year term. Companies may reapply for additional SEF funds after their initial two-year term. IEDC typically does not provide reimbursement for training that is required by law. [www.in.gov/iedc/WorkforceTraining.htm](http://www.in.gov/iedc/WorkforceTraining.htm)

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