

Dakota County Workforce Investment Board News and Notes

July/August 2004 Edition, Vol. 2-5

Mission: Providing comprehensive, professional, and timely services for jobseekers and employers.

Welcome to the Dakota County Workforce Investment Board's (WIB) News and Notes. This newsletter's purpose is to provide you with an update of workforce and economic development activities.

Upcoming Events

Dakota County WIB Meeting – August 20, 2004

WIB Members in the News

Welcome to the newest Workforce Investment Board members.

- Ann Moreno, Human Resources Operations Manager for Flint Hills Resources, Rosemount
- Dean Schwanke, Vice President Human Resources, Smead Manufacturing, Hastings
- Jennifer Brigham, President, Brigham Group, Apple Valley

Thanks to Marcia Rash, President of Wells Fargo Bank Hastings for years of service on the WIB.

Need People? Need a Job?

The next Get Jobs Job Fair is September 16th in Eagan. Both employers and those looking for work rave about past job fairs.

<http://www.mnwfc.org/dakota/jobfair/index.htm>

From the Twin Cities Business Journal

Three Dakota County Women-Owned Businesses Among Metro's Top 25

Smead Manufacturing (#3), Hastings; Rupp Industries (#15), Burnsville; and TMI Coatings Inc. (#23), Eagan, were among the top 25 women-owned businesses ranked by revenue in the metro area.

Thirteen Dakota County Freight Forwarders Among Metro's Top 25

According to the Business Journal, 13 of the top 25 metro-area freight forwarders are in Dakota County. They include K&K Express (#4), Eagan; Kuehne & Nagle Inc. (#4), Eagan; Northstar International Inc. (#9), Eagan; Manna Freight Systems (#10), Mendota Heights; U.S. Group Consolidator Inc. (#11), Eagan; Network FOB (#12), Eagan; Eagan Logistics Inc (#14) Eagan; Bax Global (#16), Eagan; Anderson Cargo Services Inc. (#17), Eagan; Kintetsu World Express (USA) Inc., (#18), Eagan; Expeditors Int'l of Washington Inc. (#19), Eagan;

Transport Express (#20), Eagan and Orion Air Cargo (#22), Mendota Heights.

Unemployment Information

County Unemployment Rate 4.1 % in June

This compares to 4.7% for the state and 5.8% nationally. Numbers in June of 2003 were 4.6% for the county; 5.3% for the state and 6.5% nationally.

<http://data.mnwfc.org/lmi/laus/detail.asp?geog=2704000037&adjust=0>

From the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)...

- **COME FOR THE JOB, STAY FOR THE PAYCHECK...** Why work at a job that doesn't pay well? Aren't there jobs with better pay? The answer, of course, depends on what one does now. New work by Mustapha Hammida, senior analyst at DEED, quantifies tenure and separation rates by wage level—and finds that a few dollars can make a difference. www.BLS.gov/opub/mlr/2004/05/contents.htm
 - **LABORSHEDS AND COMMUTE PATTERNS...** Census Bureau has been collecting data from Minnesota DEED and peer agencies to build new analyses of employment patterns. A new tool for mapping laborsheds (where an area's employers draw their workers) and commute-sheds (where your neighbors work) is now available for demonstration. http://lehd.excensonline.com/state_counties.pl?state=27000.
 - **HIGH-TECH ON A ROLLER COASTER...** One of the most productive, value-adding sectors of the economy turned out to be one of the most cyclical. From the end of 2000 to the end of 2003, Minnesota's high-tech industries shed 36,500 jobs (net loss). On balance, high-tech market demand is now bouncing back; Minnesota remains a hub of high-tech activity with 194,300 high-tech jobs at the end of 2003; and the preparedness of Minnesota's workforce looks good. A sector profile in Minnesota Economic Trends provides the numbers, online at www.DEED.state.mn.us/lmi/publications/trends/0604/hightech.htm.
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For past newsletters and information on the WIB and local WorkForce Centers <http://www.mnwfc.org/dakota/>

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