

UNEXPECTED kenosha

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kenosha Area Business Alliance(KABA) | Fall 2013

LED lighting manufacturer to invest \$25 million to build new HQs & production facility in Kenosha

Governor Scott Walker joined Jim Hawkins, CEO of Kenall Manufacturing, on September 12th to announce that the company, currently located in Gurnee, Ill., is building a new 354,000 square foot facility and will relocate and expand in Kenosha, WI.

"The construction of Kenall's new manufacturing facility and relocation of their headquarters to the Business Park of Kenosha is great news for the company and the community, and will benefit the entire state's economy," Governor Walker said. "This shows how serious and successful Wisconsin is in helping businesses expand their operations and create new jobs."

The newly constructed advanced manufacturing facility, located just east of I-94 at Highway 158, will allow Kenall adequate space for expansion to remain responsive to customer needs and support future growth creating many new employment opportunities. In addition, 13 acres adjacent to the building are included for potential future development. Groundbreaking is likely to occur in 2013 with an expected occupancy date of 12-18 months. The project involves a \$25 million capital investment and is expected to create over 600 high paying jobs within five years.

"We're excited about the growth opportunities here and what's going on at the state level as far as good budget control and attracting good businesses and building the job base here in Wisconsin." – Jim Hawkins

Kenosha was selected after a rigorous site selection process that evaluated approximately 30 industrial sites within a 25-mile radius of its headquarters in Gurnee, Ill.

"As Kenall continues to grow, this new headquarters is a commitment to our future and manufacturing in the United States," said Jim Hawkins, president and CEO of Kenall. "We look forward to watching our building take shape as we expand Kenall's presence in the heart of America and beyond!"

The state-of-the-art facility will include advanced machinery and equipment for fabrication, finishing and assembly capabilities, a certified UL testing facility, modern corporate offices, sales showroom, dedicated training centers, and many employee amenities.

Kenosha Mayor Keith Bosman, Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser, and Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht were part of the team that worked with KABA, the M7, and Governor Walker to facilitate the project. Representatives from each organization participated in the official announcement.

KABA is the lead business organization that drives economic development throughout Kenosha County and supports and provides services to its members and the community, helping to ensure growth, a robust economy, and a positive business climate for the Kenosha Area.



Governor Walker presents Kenall President Jim Hawkins with a Wisconsin state flag.

Inside...

- > Kenosha County welcomes Hanna Cylinders!
- > Business parks proposed in Somers & Pleasant Prairie
- > Meet the Downtown Kenosha Board of Directors

Unexpected Kenosha (formerly Directions) is published quarterly by the Kenosha Area Business Alliance, Inc. (KABA). Archives can be found on our web site:

www.kaba.org

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Keeping Score

In the fall of 2012, a white paper titled "High Performance Economic Development" made the rounds in the economic development community. It was authored by Atlas Advertising, a well respected economic development consulting firm based in Denver, Col. The main point the paper made was that the economic development profession suffered from a lack of clarity regarding how best to measure and evaluate the impact it has on a given community.

The authors posited that there should be an agreed upon, standard form of measurement that the economic development community could embrace in order to create uniformity throughout the profession.

In other words, there was a call to establish some clear performance measurements that could be tracked and reported and then used to compare communities and organizations and create a better understanding of their impact and effectiveness.

The paper then recommended four major items that it thought should form the basis of a performance scorecard:

1. Unique Website Visits
2. Conversations with Prospect Companies Considering Expansions or New Locations (Leads)
3. Private Investment
4. Jobs

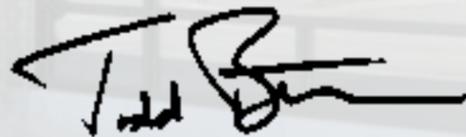
Their point was that economic development organizations (EDOs) need to be working their networks to generate interest and conversations, which eventually turn into leads and prospects, then ultimately result in projects that generate jobs and investment.

The profession as a whole has done a pretty poor job of systematically tracking results. Absent industry standards, EDOs have developed their own individual systems for measuring performance. This has made it incredibly difficult to compare results between organizations and communities. Further many EDOs are not overly rigorous in tracking this information leading to insufficient and weak data.

After reading this critique of economic development performance measures, we looked in the mirror and decided we could do a better job of tracking, comparing, and communicating our results.

We developed a scorecard, heavily influenced by the principles in the Atlas Advertising white paper, and committed to tracking and reporting these key metrics more rigorously. This issue of our newsletter formally introduces that scorecard to our investors and partners. It shows our progress toward our annual goals through the first three quarters of the 2013 calendar year.

Please take a moment to review and share any feedback that you have. Though we will likely continue to refine this tool, it will become the centerpiece of our efforts to track, measure, and report performance.



Todd Battle,
President, Kenosha Area Business Alliance



Lieutenant Governor Kleefisch visits Kenosha

Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch was in Kenosha County on September 18th to meet with Kenosha's business and community leaders.

She started the morning at ULINE where she was the featured speaker for the Y-Link Leadership Forum. Lt. Gov. Kleefisch gave an interesting, and at times amusing, talk about the importance of leadership in business. She described working for Governor Walker and the professional path that led her to the state capital. On a personal note, Lt. Gov. Kleefisch discussed challenges she's faced and overcome such as a cancer diagnosis a few years ago and the trials and triumphs of being a working mother.

Lt. Governor Kleefisch then took a tour of Bradshaw Medical in Kenosha to get a first hand look at their medical instruments manufacturing process. She learned about the company's founding seven years ago, their significant growth since and future development opportunities.

Later that day, she spoke to KABA's CEO Roundtable. She outlined some of the efforts the state is taking to bolster job creation and workforce development. She also solicited their input on the business climate in Wisconsin and feedback regarding areas that are working well and places that need improvement.



Pictured above: Lt. Gov. Kleefisch is shown around Bradshaw Medical by VP of Operations Jim Nelson and Chairman & CEO Guy Bradshaw.

Pictured below: Lt. Gov. Kleefisch speaks to a group of young professionals at the Y-Link Leadership Forum held in September at ULINE.



Welcome new KABA members!

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MIDWEST REFRIGERATED SERVICES, INC.

Integrated frozen and refrigerated logistics & distribution services for the food industry.

PRIME REALTY GROUP

A full service real estate brokerage firm.

VENTURE ONE REAL ESTATE

Provides real estate development, management, consulting, acquisition, leasing, disposal, financial-analysis & marketing services.

MODERN FAMILY DENTISTS

Offers a comprehensive list of general restorative and cosmetic dental services.

ADVANCED PAIN MANAGEMENT

A group of highly trained physicians offering minimally invasive treatments to help you reduce your pain.

If you would like to learn more about investing in KABA, please visit our web site: http://www.kaba.org/#/kaba/membership/kaba_membership_overview.asp or contact 262.605.1100 | info@kaba.org.

Welcome new KABA members!

ARMANDO'S COLLISION CENTER

Family-owned business with over 45 years of experience providing quality collision repair.

DAILY DOSE CAFÉ

A family-run business serving up gourmet panini sandwiches and homemade soups.

EMCO CHEMICAL DISTRIBUTORS, INC.

Chemical distribution, manufacturing and packaging.

FRONTIDA, INC.

Provides long term care for individuals who are no longer able to live alone.

HANNA CYLINDERS

Hydraulic and pneumatic cylinder, valve, and actuator manufacturer.

HARBORSIDE COMMONS

Senior apartments for ages 55+.

MAJESTIC REALTY CO.

Commercial real estate developers of business & industrial parks, distribution facilities, office buildings, & retail centers.

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Save the date!
The 2013 KABA Holiday Social will be held Wednesday, December 4th at Circa on Seventh.

Snapshot: Kenosha County High Impact Fund

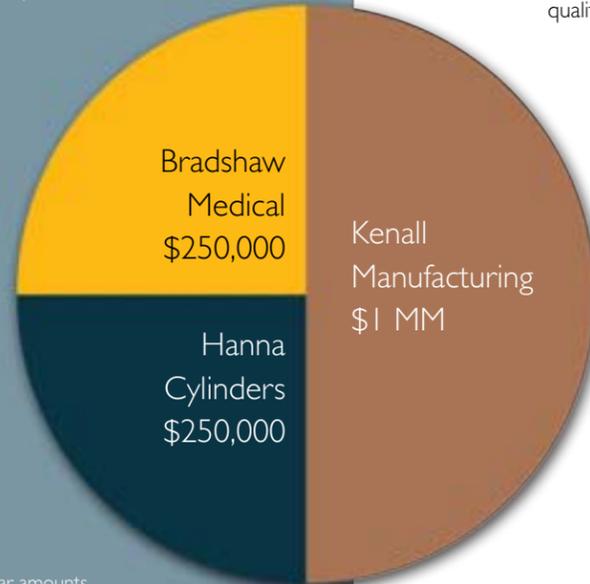
In 2011, the Kenosha County Board approved a resolution to provide \$1 million in funding to help attract high quality economic development projects.

Since then, an additional \$500,000 has been pledged.

The resolution identifies "high impact" developments as those which create at least 50 new high-paying jobs or those involving a capital investment of at least \$3 million.

Below is a list of projects funded by the Kenosha County High Impact Fund since its inception:

- **Bradshaw Medical**
May 2012
\$250,000 funded
Capital Investment: \$1,858,000*
Jobs: 50
- **Hanna Cylinders**
August 2013
\$250,000 funded
Capital Investment: \$3.3 million*
Jobs: 100
- **Kenall Manufacturing**
\$1 million pledged
Capital Investment: minimum requirement of \$25 million
Jobs: minimum requirement of 400



*dollar amounts approximate

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Hanna Cylinders to relocate its manufacturing operations, 100 jobs to Kenosha County

Hanna Cylinders, currently located in Libertyville, Ill., has chosen LakeView Corporate Park as the site of its new production facility and will relocate all of its operations to Kenosha County by the end of the year. The company manufactures industrial grade tie-rod and custom engineered cylinders.

The Illinois-based manufacturer has signed a long-term lease with ML Realty Partners to occupy 105,637-square-foot facility at 8901 102nd Street in Pleasant Prairie.

"The State of Wisconsin made Hanna's decision to relocate from Illinois overwhelmingly clear. Furthermore, KABA worked diligently to facilitate the incentives and a smooth transition. Hanna is looking forward to growing and prospering in Wisconsin." – Hanna Cylinders' President Kimball Bradley

Hanna Cylinders currently employs approximately 100 people and anticipates growth that could nearly double employment within five years.

KABA provided a \$1.5 million financing package to support Hanna's investment. This includes a \$1.25 million low-interest loan and a \$250,000 forgivable loan from the Kenosha County High Impact Fund, which was created and funded by Kenosha County to support high quality economic development projects.

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation is also supporting Hanna's investments with tax credits.

"I am pleased to welcome Hannah Cylinders to Wisconsin, and particularly to Kenosha County. This demonstrates that Wisconsin is a great place to do business," Governor Scott Walker said.

Founded in 1901, Hanna Cylinders is a designer, manufacturer and marketer of industrial grade tie-rod and custom engineered cylinders. It offers hydraulic and pneumatic cylinders and valve actuators. The company's primary market is the nuclear industry, but it serves the steel, military, lawn & garden, and oil and gas industries as well. It offers nuclear valve actuation, water/marine/corrosion resistant cylinders, offshore drilling, construction and lift equipment, plastic injection molding and other related applications as well.



Pictured: Hanna Cylinders has signed a long-term lease to occupy 105,637-square-foot facility at 8901 102nd Street in Pleasant Prairie.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Two major business park developments proposed in Kenosha County

A influx of new companies to the area and increased development activity has led two national real estate firms to propose projects that would bring more than 500 acres of business park space on-line in Kenosha County. As the vacancy rate plummets amid continued interest from firms looking to locate to Kenosha County and existing firms seek to expand, many developers believe Kenosha County is a great location to invest. Two real estate firms have put forth separate business park proposals.

Venture One unveils plans for Riverview Corporate Park in Pleasant Prairie

A master conceptual plan for a new corporate park southeast of Pleasant Prairie Premium Outlets was approved by the Village of Pleasant Prairie Plan Commission and Board in September. Venture One Real Estate is seeking to develop 254 acres east of Interstate 94 between 110th and 122nd Streets; a development to be named Riverview Corporate Park. Of the 254 acres, 86 are buildable, with the remainder comprising wetlands and open space features that will use prairie and wetlands to transition into the adjoining areas giving it a park-like setting.

The area is in part of the newly designated M-5 zoning district in the Village, allowing the facilities to be used for office, research and development, manufacturing, production and assembly operations. Initial plans call for the development of five initial, and up to seven, office and industrial buildings ranging in size from 87,000 to 428,000 square feet.

Development of the site could begin during 2014. At full build-out, Riverview Corporate Park is estimated to employ 1,100 people.

Majestic Realty plans 309-acre development in Somers

Majestic Realty had conceptual plans for a 309-acre development unanimously approved by the Town of Somers Board in September. The California-based company is proposing two different scenarios for the site, which spans from the Canadian Pacific railroad tracks west to Highway H from Highway S (142) on the south to about the 2000 block of Highway H on the north. The two plans call for either a mix of large distribution centers and smaller industrial buildings for numerous different companies or fewer, larger distribution centers. According to Majestic Vice President Josh Wheeler, the site will have room for "plus or minus" five million square feet of buildings. The project is still in the conceptual phase.

The proposed project is the second development Majestic Realty has proposed in Kenosha County. A 1.2-million-square-foot distribution center has gained the Village of Pleasant Prairie's approval, but Majestic has not yet lined up tenants or set a timeline to start construction.

KABA portfolio update

On August 28, 2013 KABA closed a \$1,500,000 loan package with Hanna Cylinders, LLC. KABA's financing consisted of an equipment loan in the amount of \$1,250,000 and a High Impact Forgivable Loan in the amount of \$250,000. KABA's High Impact Loan Fund was capitalized by Kenosha County in 2011 to support high quality economic development projects.

Hanna Cylinders designs, manufactures and markets air, hydraulic and pneumatic cylinders and valves. Customers are in a number of industries including, nuclear power generation, steel, military, oil & gas and lawn & garden. The company will lease approximately 106,000 square feet of production and office space in LakeView Corporate Park and will create approximately 100 new full-time positions within three years.



Featured Property

For more information on this property or other available business sites, please visit

www.kenoshasites.com.

9201 Wilmot Road, Pleasant Prairie

- 363,468 SF on +/- 23 acres
- Divisible to 50,000 SF
- Ceiling height: 22' clear
- 5 interior docks; 2 drive-in doors; 10 exterior docks
- Fully air-conditioned; ample parking



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mustard manufacturer Olds Products to expand in Pleasant Prairie

Muskie Enterprises Inc. plans to build a 48,562-square-foot addition at its Olds Products facility at 10700 88th Avenue in LakeView Corporate Park in Pleasant Prairie. The Pleasant Prairie Plan Commission considered and approved Site and Operational Plans for the expansion in September.

The Olds Products 48,392-square-foot facility was built in 1995 in the LakeView Corporate Park. The addition will bring the total building space to 96,954 square feet. It will be used for production and storage of the company's mustard and vinegar products.

Olds Products currently employs 65 people at their Pleasant Prairie location. This expansion is expected to add two full time positions.

Olds Products is the largest private label mustard manufacturer in the United States, according to the company. Construction of the addition is expected to begin this fall.

KABA, Kenosha Chamber to honor companies at annual awards dinner

On November 7, KABA and the Kenosha Area Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Business Excellence awards, recognizing business excellence in Kenosha County.

This year's winners will be celebrated at a dinner at UW-Parkside's Student Center ballroom. Video tributes of each of the following award winners be shown and subsequently available on KABA's YouTube channel: KABAConnectHere.

Business of the Year: **Rust-Oleum Corporation**

Small Business of the Year: **Equity Creative**

Entrepreneur of the Year: **Michael Kopper, Founder & President, Centrisys Corporation**

Fast Five: **ASYST Technologies, Inc.; Catalyst Exhibits, Inc.; Clean & Green Solutions, LLC; Dooley & Associates, LLC; and IRIS USA, Inc.**

KABA MEMBER NEWS & NOTES

Suite Imagery receives Telly Award

The Telly Awards has named Kenosha's Suite Imagery LLC as a Bronze winner in the 34th Annual Telly Awards for the production of an animated video for the In Floor Cellular Raceway System by Kenosha-based Cordeck. A judging panel of over 500 industry professionals evaluated entries and selected the winners.



The award-winning video is being used to demonstrate the raceway system's groundbreaking technology in creating a sustainable, safe, and secure environment, while maintaining the integrity of design. It is being used on Cordeck's website and by their company's representatives to help their clients have a complete understanding of the benefits of using this system for commercial wire management.

Centrisys Corp. wins innovation award

Centrisys Corporation was selected by the Water Environment Federation (WEF) Board of Trustees as the 2013 recipient of the Innovative Technology Award for their product Centrisys Centrifuge Thickener - THK Series.

The Innovative Technology Awards include the collection systems, instrumentation, process equipment, and solids handling & disposal categories. The award is presented annually to WEF associate members who have introduced new innovative products or services related to the construction, operation or maintenance of treatment facilities.

Centrisys was presented the award at a Celebration of Excellence Reception & Ceremony on October 8th at the McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago. The Centrisys Innovation Team also participated in a moderated panel discussion the day before.



KABA welcomes new team member: Jeanne Geiger

Visitors will be welcomed by a new face - and voice on the phone - when they come or call in to KABA. Jeanne Geiger started as a part-time office assistant on August 1.

Jeanne came to us from Buehler, a scientific equipment manufacturer in Lake Bluff, Illinois. After commuting for over 25 years, she is excited to be working in Kenosha County and is enjoying her five minute drive in to work.

Jeanne is married to Brian Geiger - an assistant principal at Tremper High School. They have two children and enjoy traveling all over the United States with them. Jeanne is also an avid runner.



Kenosha County Economic Development SCORECARD

January 1 through September 12, 2013

KABA recently developed a set of primary performance indicators to track the overall performance of KABA and the Kenosha Area in regards to economic development. This document will serve as a visual representation of our long range goals. This 'first draft' will evolve as KABA adds additional metrics in important areas such as talent development and downtown revitalization.

JOBS

KABA will work on expansion, relocation/attraction projects that generate 5,000 new jobs within the next five years (2013-2017). This is an average of 1,000 jobs per year. The emphasis will be on tracking projects that KABA is directly involved in.



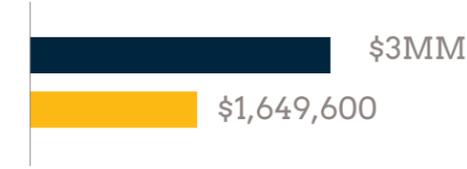
LEAD GENERATION

KABA will interact with 50 economic development prospects (or professional representatives on behalf of prospects) regarding the consideration of Kenosha County as a legitimate option for a project location.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

KABA will fund \$3 million per year in new project financing.



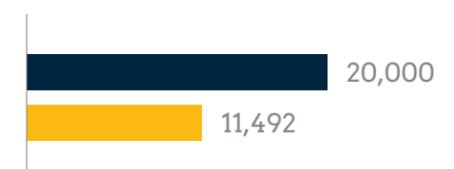
NEW PRIVATE INVESTMENT

KABA will work on development projects that generate \$500 million in new private investment over the next five years (2013-2017). This is \$100 million annually.



WEB SITE VISITS

KABA's web site will attract 20,000 visitors per year.



BRE PROGRAM

KABA will make 100 Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) visits per year.



*A staff vacancy limited full implementation of KABA's BRE program in the first half of 2013.

KEY

Year to Date (YTD)

- 2013 goal
- On Track
- Caution
- Behind

Wisconsin Ranked No. 2 in economic growth

According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's monthly coincidental index for August, Wisconsin is now second in the nation in economic growth.

Each month, the Bank combines four state-level indicators to summarize current economic conditions in a single statistic. They take nonfarm payroll employment, average hours worked in manufacturing, the unemployment rate, and wage and salary disbursements deflated by the consumer price index.

The trend for each state's index is set to the trend of its gross domestic product (GDP), so long-term growth in the state's index matches long-term growth in its GDP.

Wisconsin's growth rate over the last three months is the best in 25 years and the ranking is the best in history.

This ranking is latest in series of positive economic news for state:

- Private sector job growth from April to July shows the largest three-month gain on record going back to 1990 at 28,100. Total job growth is the best as well with 31,900.
- Wisconsin housing permits for the first seven months of 2013 are 20.5% above 2012.
- New business formations year-to-date are up 4.2% from 2012 levels.
- Average initial weekly unemployment insurance claims are at 13-year low.
- Wisconsin's unemployment rate is 6.7%, below the national average of 7.3%.



TALENT DEVELOPMENT

UW-Parkside, Gateway form partnerships to simplify student transfers

In September, Gateway Technical College and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside signed seven transfer agreements allowing Gateway students who graduate from seven programs to enter UW-Parkside as juniors.

**“For decades, Gateway and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside have worked together to benefit our communities and provide the talent base our businesses and organizations need.”
- Dr. Deborah Ford (pictured bottom right)**

The two Kenosha Area higher education institutions have been building on the strong relationship they already have to align curriculum and create additional seamless transfers from Gateway to UW-Parkside.

As a result of the agreements, students graduating from Gateway with degrees in accounting, business management, marketing, and supervisory management will have the opportunity to transfer into UW-Parkside in the programs of accounting, management information systems, and business management in the UW-Parkside College of Business,

Economics, and Computing; students graduating with a Gateway degree in graphic communications will have the opportunity to transfer into UW-Parkside's graphic design (art) degree program in the UW-Parkside College of Arts and Humanities. Depending on the degree, Gateway students will see 54 to 62 of their credits accepted at UW-Parkside.

This means that students can earn a technical college degree and enter the workforce – but still have the opportunity earn a baccalaureate degree. It also allows students who want to begin their education at Gateway, and continue at UW-Parkside, knowing that their credits will be accepted at the four-year university.



Board member profile: Jerry King, CFO, Kenosha Beef International/Birchwood Foods

Jerry King joined the KABA Board of Directors earlier this year, representing independent beef supplier Kenosha Beef, located west of the interstate in Paris, WI.

Jerry was born in Milwaukee and attended UW-Milwaukee where he earned his accounting degree and later his MBA. He started his career in public accounting with Price Waterhouse. He also worked at Conley, McDonald, Sprague and Co. which brought him to Kenosha when they acquired a local accounting firm.

Jerry was hired by Kenosha Beef as Corporate Controller in 1989. He was elected to the Kenosha Beef board in 1991 and became Chief Financial Officer in 1993.

Jerry has been married for 32 years and has two adult children. He enjoys golfing although he admits he never seems to have enough time to get better at it!



TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Gateway to benefit from Department of Labor grant

The U.S. Department of Labor in partnership with the Department of Education awarded a \$23 million grant to a state-wide project in Wisconsin aimed at developing, improving, and expanding adult educational training pathways to careers in information technology-related occupations.

Gateway Technical College will receive \$1,215,832 of that grant beginning October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2016, to serve a total of 50 participants over three years. The participants will be workers who are eligible for training under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Workers program, which include workers who have lost their jobs or are threatened with job loss as a result of foreign trade, as well as other adults such as the unemployed, veterans and underrepresented women and minorities.

Gateway will build a one year IT Generalist Diploma program and Share Point certificate programs as a track in its existing Information Technology Associate of Applied Science Degree in order to retain dislocated workers and other adults for in demand jobs in the tri-county area of Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth counties as well as Northern Illinois.

We are all Kenosha

Recently, I was asked to describe Gateway to a group of visiting college leaders. I considered how I would respond, knowing the many important programs and services we provide our students. I wanted to share something I thought made us unique and, in some ways special, from what they experience at their college.

I quickly realized the answer: The thing that makes Gateway special is the communities we serve and the partnerships we've forged within them.

In his book "First in the World," Noah Brown acknowledges Gateway Technical College as the first publicly funded, two-year college in America. That's right – we are the oldest and the first community/technical college in the world. The important component of this is that Gateway would not be here if it were not for the communities that created and support it.

For more than 100 years, community partnerships have served as a cornerstone to shape the mission of our college. While we may not all be Gateway students, we are all Kenosha.

Gateway proudly partners with the city and county in building a stronger community. We are a supporting partner with KABA and the business community to ensure our community had a qualified workforce, and we are an investing partner with civic organizations like the United Way, Literacy Council, Rotary and the Boys & Girls Club.

As president of a college with a storied history, I believe the most important investment we can make is in the youth of our community. The Boys & Girls Club is one example of how partnerships can help build a community. Together we have been able to improve youth and adult computer literacy, support fun and hands-on summer camps on energy conservation and green careers, and provide instruction on preparing food and proper food handling techniques. Many youth also come to Gateway each year for free dental checkups and career exploration.

The bonds we've forged through community partnerships links our services and students to our communities. I would encourage you to do the same, and would ask the same question I was asked: How would you describe your business?

By Bryan Albrecht. Bryan is President of Gateway Technical College and a generous contributor to many community organizations. He sits on the board of many, including KABA and the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha.

October is Manufacturing Month in Wisconsin! Manufacturing is an important part of Wisconsin's economy. Did you know that every manufacturing career creates at least 2.91 more jobs in other sectors? See the insert in this quarter's issue - or view it at http://www.kaba.org/pdf/2013/mfg_month.pdf for more facts about manufacturing careers in Wisconsin.

The thing that makes Gateway special is the communities we serve and the partnerships we've forged within them.



Downtown Kenosha Committees

As a newly designated Main Street community, Downtown Kenosha has adopted the proven approach of economic development through historic preservation. Four volunteer committees are actively working to implement the Main Street approach, each with a unique focus.

- PROMOTION – Growing the customer base, planning events, and marketing the neighborhood
- DESIGN – Improving the look of the street, increasing public art, and ensuring accessibility
- ORGANIZATION – Developing resources, creating partnerships, and recruiting volunteers
- ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING – Keeping businesses open and filling available properties

Each committee meets monthly, and we invite you to join us! For details on next meetings, please email vricker@downtownkenosha.org.



The State of Downtown Kenosha

Over 200 people came to hear an update on the State of Downtown Kenosha in August to learn about the progress being made since the Downtown Strategic Development Plan's adoption one year ago.

Representatives from the City of Kenosha, Wisconsin Main Street, The Lakota Group, KABA and other partners all spoke about the importance of Downtown development in the context of our county's economic development. Implementation of the Downtown Plan and the Main Street program are moving forward quickly with the support of our dedicated Downtown business and property owners, municipal staff and elected officials, and a growing volunteer base.

A video of the presentation can be viewed at DowntownKenosha.org.

Meet the Downtown Kenosha Board of Directors!

Todd Battle
President, Kenosha Area Business Alliance

Jennifer Dooley
Principal, Dooley & Associates LLC

Kevin Ervin
Owner, Frank's Diner

Mark Fedyk
Vice President, Retail, Jockey International, Inc.

Deanna Goodwin
Director of Marketing, Kenosha Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

Zohrab Khaligian
Community Development Specialist, City of Kenosha

Marty Lacock
Chief Information Officer, Kenosha County

Paul McDonough
Chairman, Downtown Business Improvement District

Peter Molter
Vice President, United Hospital System

Tom O'Connell
Principal, Partners in Design Architects

Chris Schwartz
2nd District Alderperson, City of Kenosha

The newly formed board of directors for Downtown Kenosha met for the first time on September 24th. At its first meeting, the board went through a visioning process which will guide the organization's efforts going forward.

The initial board terms will be for one year. Going forward, elections will be held and directors will serve three year terms.

"People choose where to locate based not just on the availability of land, but on a host of factors. Increasingly, companies and families alike are finding a large number of options that fit their basic needs, so what sets communities apart and attracts growth is that intangible but recognizable sense of place."

— Violet Ricker



Take 10 with Kenosha YP Erin Mottinger

Occupation: Clinic Administrator, Kenosha Community Health Center

How long have you lived or worked in Kenosha County? I have lived in Kenosha County since 1995. Growing up, my father was in the United States Navy and we moved every 1-3 years. When he got orders to Great Lakes Naval Base in North Chicago, my parents choose Kenosha because the schools have such a great reputation. He ended up retiring out of Great Lakes and Kenosha has been my home ever since.

What is your favorite Kenosha County event/activity? I moved to Kenosha the summer before my junior year of high school. One of the first activities I did when we moved here was attend the Fourth of July fireworks celebration. I have made it a tradition ever since. It's great to see everyone enjoying the lake front and coming together to celebrate. We bought our first boat a couple years ago and now get to watch the fireworks on the lake. There is nothing like it!

What is one thing you would like to see improved in Kenosha County? I would like to see an improvement in access and services for the mentally ill. It is difficult for the patients I serve to obtain psychiatry services, especially for children. It would be great to see the county come together to recruit more psychiatrists.

What about Kenosha are you really proud of? I'm really proud of the diversity we have here. We truly live in such a rich melting pot of culture. From museums to educational opportunities to our beautiful lake front, Kenosha offers such a wide variety of opportunity.



Upcoming events

Raise the Bar: Behind the Scenes-Downtown Kenosha
Tuesday, October 15 | 5:30-7:30 p.m. | Historic Kenosha National Bank, 8th Floor

According to Kenosha's Next Generation Leader's Survey, a vibrant downtown was one of the most common wishes young professionals had to enhance quality of life in Kenosha. If you agree, now is your chance to discover how you can help make that happen. Join new Downtown Kenosha Director and young professional, Violet Ricker, for an update on the progress of the downtown revitalization project.

Food for Thought Workshop: Strategies to Achieve Work-Life Balance

Thursday, October 31 | 11:30-1:00 p.m. | The Club at Strawberry Creek

Life-Work balance is becoming increasingly important to people of all generations, genders and ethnicities. Chances are, you're probably passionate about the overall quality of your life. But how do we strike a balance?

Aleta Norris, partner with Living as a Leader, will lead this interactive, hands-on workshop to help you gain strategies to do just that. Assess the quality of your Wheel of Life. Design exactly where you WANT more balance. Begin to craft your strategy to achieve it.

Halloween Costume Drive & Hope Council Pumpkin Roll

Y-Link is collecting new and gently used Halloween costumes to help children of all ages celebrate. Donations will be provided to children (age infant-12 yrs old) who are served by Women & Children's Horizons. Donations will be collected at:

Hope Council Pumpkin Roll, October 19, 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Washington Park
Y-Link is also seeking volunteers to support this event.

Or, drop off your donation in advance at the following:

Kenosha Area Business Alliance
5500 6th Ave. Suite 200 | Kenosha

KUSD, Educational Support Center
3600 52nd Ave. | Kenosha

LMI Packaging Solutions
8911 102nd Street | Pleasant Prairie

Find registration details on the Y-Link events calendar at ylinkenosha.com.

Did you know?

Y-Link recently helped the Kenosha Literacy Council raise more than \$7,000 by partnering with the organization to host the Laps for Literacy 5K Run/Walk.



PLACE
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5500 Sixth Avenue, Suite 200
Kenosha, WI 53140-3752

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