

# Cumberland County Development Corporation

# Community News

Volume 5 Issue 1 Spring 2007 Issue



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

◆Feature	2
◆Director's Note	2
◆Cumberland County Businesses of the Month	3
◆Become a Member of CCDC	4

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AS THE NEW PRESIDENT OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE MYSELF TO EVERYONE. MY HUSBAND AND I HAVE BEEN THE OWNERS OF THE TOLEDO DEMOCRAT (NEWSPAPER) SINCE 1999. I HAVE WORKED AT THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE FOR 20 YEARS.

I HAVE LIVED IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY MY WHOLE LIFE AND MY HUSBAND SINCE 1977. WE HAVE ONE DAUGHTER, CHASITY DUNAWAY (HUSBAND BRIAN), AND ONE GRAND-DAUGHTER, LIBERTY JEAN DUNAWAY, WHO ALSO LIVE IN TOLEDO.

THIS SHOULD BE A VERY EXCITING YEAR FOR CUMBERLAND COUNTY DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE WORKING ON SEVERAL, EXCITING PROJECTS. WE WILL KEEP EVERYONE UPDATED ON THE PROGRESS.

IN 2006 CUMBERLAND COUNTY HAD THIRTY-FOUR NEW BUSINESSES OPEN. THE COUNTY ECONOMY IS MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION AND WE HOPE THAT OUR WORK WILL

*(Continued on page 3)*



Dan Carr & Billie Chambers

## CCDC HOLDS ANNUAL DINNER & AWARD CEREMONY

President Dan Carr welcomed everyone to the Cumberland County Development Annual Dinner and introduced George Ozier and Friends, who entertained the crowd with music. Then Open Door Baptist Church Pastor, Leon Hanley, gave the Invocation. A delicious dinner was catered by Janet's Café in Greenup.

After dinner, President Carr asked for approval of the 2006 Annual Dinner Meeting Minutes. It was motioned and approved. President Carr also asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report. It was motioned and approved.

Next, CCDC Director, Sara Layton, gave the Director's Report and mentioned many activities that she has been working on over the past year. She ended her report by thanking everyone for attending the Annual Dinner.

President Dan Carr then had Bill Steichmann announce the slate of officers for election: Billie Chambers, President; Janet Stierwalt, Vice President; Penny Huddleston, Secretary; June Hayden, Treasurer; Rick Hunt Membership; and Misty Bauguss, Publicity. It was motioned and approved by the membership.

Then, Membership Chairman, Rick Hunt, spoke to the audience. He recognized

the CCDC Board and elected official from the county and municipalities. He reported that there are plans for seminars to be set up for local business benefit. President Carr then informed the audience that 34 new businesses were opened in Cumberland County in the year 2006. He recognized the new businesses.

President Carr announced the winner of the Economic Development Person(s) of the Year Award were Dan and Sonya Webb, owners of Cameo Vineyards. He then announced that there were three Hall of Fame Award winners for 2006: Billie Chambers, Lisa Dill, and Jerry Roll.

The Guest Speaker of the night was Dr. Bill Thallemer, President of Lake Land College. He thanked everyone for inviting him to our beautiful county. He talked about the fact that our strongest assets in Cumberland County are ourselves.

Door prizes were then awarded and President Carr presented CCDC Director Layton with a gift. Layton stated that she was proud to be a part of Cumberland County Development Corporation.

## Agurban Ten Trends for 2007

**Sense of Place**—What unique attributes set you apart from other towns? It started in the revitalization of downtowns and has spread to arts and recreational assets. Trails, agri-tourism, recreational land, bird watching and other non-traditional assets are becoming increasingly important in developing a special sense of place for a community.

**Green**—Alternative energy such as wind, solar, ethanol and biodiesel are changing communities and creating some very unique new opportunities. Green products and buildings are gaining in usage. Branding examples like Bio Town, IN are leading edge.

**Art Meccas**—Emerging art towns that are actively recruiting in artists who want to own their own studio/house, which an amazingly small number of artists are able to do in larger cities. Paducah, KY is the best example but much smaller towns are emerging (e.g. Cordell, OK and Palestine, IL).

**Third Coast**—Led by “halfbackers” who moved to a coastal state but because of rising costs, congestion and other headaches are moving half-way back home. Draw a line from MT down to AZ and across to NC. These states/regions along this line have some unique opportunities to take advantage of this trend.

**Non-PMS Entrepreneurs**—The traditional “Pale, Male & Stale” entrepreneur is being supplanted by females, minorities, immigrants and others. This trend will explode with the millennial generation, the most entrepreneurial generation in the history of the USA.

**Taste of Place**—People are beginning to value the place through its products, mostly food related. It started with wine but is spreading to cheese, honey, maple syrup, olive oil and other products.

**Labor Shortage**—Quickly developing into a major impediment in many rural towns. Some are starting to tap into their “brain banks” of former residents to solve.

**Angel Investor Networks**—Growing from only 20 to over 250 in the last 10 years, these generally regional initiatives are growing in importance. States like WI and IA have incentivated with investment tax credits, which more states will follow.

**Local**—The spinach scare followed by the green onion debacle at Taco Bell’s in 2006 is causing people to reevaluate their food sources. Local production is going to be increasingly prized.

**Regionalism**—As the world becomes smaller, the political boundaries of the 18th Century become less important. Visionary leaders are embracing the concept of regionalism to enhance the opportunities for their citizens.

*Reprinted from [www.boomtowninstitute.com](http://www.boomtowninstitute.com)*

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE



**Dates to remember:**

March 31st—Greenup Chamber Kite Contest  
 April 5th—CCDC Meeting  
 April 17th—Election Day  
 May 17th—ECIDC Annual Meeting  
 July 27th—Relay for Life of Cumberland County

**Dates set for Spring & Summer Festivals:**

Springfest—May 17th through 20th  
 Neoga Days—June 14th through 17th  
 National Road Festival—June 15th through 17th  
 Freedom Day—June 30th  
 County Fair—August 19th through 25th

## CCDC HONORS LOCAL BUSINESSES EACH MONTH!

### **First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust**

First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust, in Neoga, is honored as Cumberland County Development Business of the Month for December 2006. First Mid was originally established in 1907 as Cumberland County National Bank. Then in 1983, CCNB merged with First Mid-Illinois Bancshares. An official name change took place in 1992, when five subsidiary banks consolidated, and began the operation we now know as First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust. Today, 1st Mid operates 28 banking institutions in 20 communities across Illinois. First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust is a full service bank with assets totaling over \$950 million. They also have a wealth management division with additional assets of \$450 million and can provide a full line of insurance services through their subsidiary, The Checkley Agency, INC.

Pam Storm, Assistant Vice-President & Co-Manager of the Neoga location, says, "Longevity of work is common trade here." This is reinforced by the fact that Pam is celebrating 25 years with the bank. Lewis Ryder, Assistant Vice-President & Co-Manager, along with Kay Heaton, Assistant Cashier, are both celebrating 32 years with First Mid in 2006. Also, Clyde Drennan (Bank President 1963-1989) was employed with the bank for 41 years. Another interesting fact about Clyde: With his election as Bank President in 1963, he was the youngest President of a banking institution in the state of Illinois.

First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust is invested in the local community in many ways. Starting with the "How to do your Banking" program, 1st Mid coordinates with Neoga High School to provide materials and direction in the classroom to help students become familiar with money management. In addition to the many community oriented projects, such as Angle Tree, Holiday Food Drive and Summer Sports Leagues, 1st Mid also supports activities that benefit the students and families within the Neoga School District, including Neoga Head Start, and those projects that are linked to area churches. First Mid has been successfully sponsoring the "Children's Shopping Spree" for the past 17 years and recently helped the Neoga Food Pantry get started by donating the building. Further, First Mid has always had an interest in economic development and has historically supported efforts to move Cumberland County in the direction of progress.

Cumberland County Development is proud to honor First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust in Neoga. Please join us as we celebrate their success and visit the lobby located at 102

East 6th St. Monday through Thursday 9am-3pm, Friday 9am-6pm and Saturday by appointment (additional hours available at Drive-up). You may contact 1st Mid by calling 895-2226 or visit them on the web at [www.firstmid.com](http://www.firstmid.com)

### **The Fillin' Station**

The Fillin' Station is honored as Cumberland County Development Corporation Business of the Month for January 2007. Richard and Jessica Peters, Owners, were surprised to hear that another local restaurant owner had nominated their business for Toledo Business of the Month. Although not in direct competition, Kim Panky, owner of Pank's Pizza in Greenup, nominated The Fillin' Station as CCDC Business of the Month, "Because of all they do for the community".

In 2001, Peters' opened The Fillin' Station in the old Marathon building. They provided vehicle services, two-grade fuel products, as well as a sit down, coffee-shop environment for Toledo area residents. Since that time, there have been many changes, improvements, and even a building expansion.

Today the Station, as it's generally referred to by the locals, employs a total of 19 people in addition to Richard and Jessica, offers a full line of routine maintenance services for your vehicle, and three grades of unleaded gasoline in addition to the newly added diesel fuel. The restaurant offers a full menu each day, homemade daily specials, All You Can Eat Fish on Fridays, and homemade desserts and pies each day. *Note: As of the first week in January, The Station now offers all three grades of unleaded fuel and ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel. New dispensers have been installed to complete the upgrade and Pay at-the-Pump will be available for your added convenience.*

Richard and Jessica know that part of being a successful business is serving the needs of the community. In addition to seeing the need for a diesel fuel source in Cumberland County and then rising to the challenges involved in meeting that need, these business owners continually support area activities with humble hearts. Among many other things, The Fillin' Station supports area Head Start activities, Summer League baseball/softball, and are strong supporters of the programs and activities at Cumberland Schools. Most importantly, Richard and Jessica want to make it clear that all that they do wouldn't be possible if it weren't for the, much appreciated and amazing support of the local people.

The Fillin' Station is located at 164 Courthouse Square in Toledo. The hours of operation are as follows: Monday-

Saturday 5am to 9pm and Sunday 7am to 7pm with food service Monday-Thursday and Saturday 5:30am to 2pm Friday 5:30am to 8pm and Sunday 7am to 2pm. Contact Richard, Jessica and staff by calling 849-2626 or by dropping by for a visit. Please join Cumberland County Development as we celebrate their continued success and contribution to our community.

### **Cumberland Internet, INC**

Cumberland Internet has been in existence since 1996. The company has been operating under the same name and same ownership for over a decade. In the 1990s, residents and businesses of Cumberland County saw the need for Internet service and really needed information about how many computers really existed in the county. Cumberland County Development Corporation was instrumental in conducting the survey and then, CCDC worked to write a USDA Rural Development grant for Cumberland Internet to purchase the equipment needed to bring Internet to the residents of the area.

Cumberland Internet offers dial-up Internet service for the following telephone prefixes: 849, 895, 844, 923, 932, 967, 347, and 342. They also offer wireless service to customers in Cumberland County, as well as, those in Casey, Westfield, T-Town, Sigel and Effingham. Cumberland Internet offers free Internet Check-ups for all of their customers, as well as, free Internet classes every Thursday @ 2pm or 7pm, on a rotating schedule, (call for information).

Cumberland Internet wanted to make sure that the community knew how much they appreciated all of the support that they have been given over the years. Although the business operates in a small building, sharing space with AB Computers, Cumberland Internet can be credited with creating jobs in this county and bringing more efficiency to existing jobs. The Internet has opened up our world and moved Cumberland County into the view of the nation and the world by making it possible for millions of people to view local WebPages.

Cumberland Internet is located at 110 Cumberland St in Greenup (making it the only ISP located in down state Illinois) and open for business Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm. Please call 923-5115 for information or stop by for a visit. Cumberland Internet also provides after hours technical support from 5pm to midnight Monday through Saturday. Please don't hesitate to call 800-412-2692 for assistance.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** (Continued from page 1)

**CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THAT MOVEMENT. HOPEFULLY WITH EVERYONE WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS.**

**TO MAKE CCDC SUCCEED, WE MUST ALL WORK TOGETHER. ALL COMMUNITIES WORKING TOGETHER WILL PUT CUMBERLAND COUNTY ON THE MAP.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME TO OUR MONTHLY MEETING. THE MEETINGS ARE THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7 A.M. AT THE BANCSHARES BUILDING, TOLEDO.**

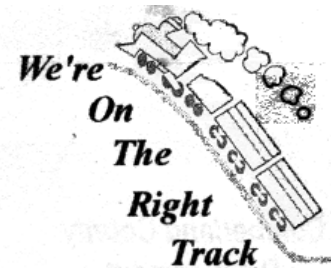
**REMEMBER IF CCDC CAN BE OF ANY HELP; JUST CALL MYSELF, (849-2000 WORK OR 849-3365 HOME) OR SARA LAYTON, CCDC DIRECTOR, (849-2359 WORK OR 849-4359 CELL).**

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**Director**

Sara Layton

**ATTENTION CUMBERLAND COUNTY SMALL  
BUSINESS OWNERS**

The Cumberland County Development Corporation needs your help in assuring a bright future for this county.

Whether your business is in the service or industrial sector, an increased effort in economic development will have a positive impact on your business and in this community. More jobs and tourism means more residents and traffic through Cumberland County resulting in more demand for your support services and industrial products.

With a small contribution, you can become a member of CCDC and participate in the successes of Cumberland County. Individual memberships are only \$25 per year, businesses employing less than 10 are \$50 and businesses employing more than 10 are \$100 annually (checks can be sent to PO Box 531, Toledo, IL 62468). By becoming active in CCDC, you will make this county a better place to live, work and play. CCDC meetings are held the first Thursday of each month @ 7:00 am in the Bancshares building just outside of Toledo on Route 121. Everyone is welcome and thank you for your support!!

