



Volume 2 | Issue 9

## SEPTEMBER UPDATE

NEW BUSINESS	COUNTY
<b>Envision Optimal Performance (EOP) Engineering</b>	Allen <a href="#">more info</a>
<b>ForeverGreen Enterprises</b>	Wabash <a href="#">more info</a>
EXPANSIONS	COUNTY
<b>Dreamseed</b>	Allen <a href="#">more info</a>
<b>Midwest Industrial Metal Fabrication</b>	Huntington <a href="#">more info</a>
<b>Koenig Equipment</b>	Grant <a href="#">more info</a>
<b>HUPP Aerospace/Defense</b>	Allen <a href="#">more info</a>
<b>LaGrange Products</b>	Steuben <a href="#">more info</a>
<b>Millennium Industries</b>	Noble <a href="#">more info</a>

## BUSINESS NEWS

### New Online Venture Recalls Golden Age of Radio

Fort Wayne-based Dreamseed has just launched the online infrastructure for what could become the audio-theater version of Hollywood. Founder Xander Davis says Echo Fiction is the biggest Web-based audio-theater publication source ever created, containing previously recorded and new productions. It just debuted with 100 hours of streaming audio-theater content. "It's basically like television shows, but without the visuals." [\[more\]](#)

### \$1.2 Million Makeover to Create Moore Financial Center

Christopher Moore, a local financial adviser, is investing \$1.2 million to remake Jorgensens, a former upscale retail store, into a financial services destination. "It's going to be a wow experience," Moore said. The Moore Financial Center will open with six employees, including paraplanners and a second certified financial planner. Moore plans to hire three or four licensed financial planners over the next two years. The positions start at \$30,000 plus incentive bonuses. Worth magazine put Moore on its list of the country's 250 best financial planners in 2002. [\[more\]](#)

### Area firms Companies to Watch

Several area firms have been named to the state's 50 Companies to Watch list, presented by the Indiana Economic Development Corp. [\[more\]](#)

## HIGHER EDUCATION

### Commission Outlines Plan to Improve Higher Education

The Chair of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education says a strong public higher education system could help raise the average personal income of Hoosiers. Valparaiso Mayor Jon Costas says an education system to prepare residents for the new economy is essential in raising incomes. The commission has launched a wide-ranging plan to improve higher education in Indiana. The "Reaching Higher" initiatives have a key goal of Indiana being among the top 10 states for college degree completion. [\[more\]](#)

### Taylor University Engineering Programs Receive Accreditations

The Computer Engineering and Engineering Physics Programs at Taylor have been through the extensive review process, required for ABET accreditation, including an on-site review during fall, 2007. Subsequently, both programs have been awarded ABET accreditation. The action by ABET represents a significant milestone and mark of distinction for Taylor University graduates from these two programs. [\[more\]](#)



#### ADAMS

An Indiana bankruptcy court has approved the sale of Driggs Farms of Indiana Inc. to Land-O-Sun Dairies LLC. Workers will be allowed to keep their jobs after the sale is complete and Land-O-Sun Dairies takes over. [\[more\]](#)

#### ALLEN

Parkivew has acquired the Inverness Ambulatory Surgery Center on the Southwest side of Fort Wayne, further expanding its outpatient services. [\[more\]](#)

#### DEKALB

Newly created DeKalb County Special Olympics organization will allow athletes with intellectual disabilities to stay closer to home to train and compete. [\[more\]](#)

#### GRANT

Marion General Hospital, and students from Indiana Wesleyan University and Taylor University will be working in partnership to create a community health profile of Grant County. Final results will classify the community's health in nine categories. [\[more\]](#)

#### HUNTINGTON

Midwest Industrial Metal Fabrication plans to expand its operations in Huntington and create 33 jobs by 2011. [\[more\]](#)

#### NOBLE

The Avilla Town Council passed a pair of improvement measures helping fund the Noble County Economic Development Corp. and reinstating the town's sidewalk improvement loan program. [\[more\]](#)

Automotive supplier Millennium Industries is expanding its headquarters and manufacturing operations in Ligonier and creating more than 170 jobs by 2011. [\[more\]](#)

#### STEBEN

## College Campus Populations Swelling

IPFW [\[more\]](#)

Indiana Business College [\[more\]](#)

Indiana Tech [\[more\]](#)

Manchester College [\[more\]](#)

Ivy Tech-Marion Campus [\[more\]](#)

Indiana Wesleyan University [\[more\]](#)

Taylor University [\[more\]](#)

Trine University [\[more\]](#)

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### Vocational Cooperative Receives State Grant

Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman recently awarded a \$148,500 Rural Capacity Grant to the Four County Area Vocational Cooperative to fund a workforce development project. The cooperative serves Noble, Steuben, Dekalb, and LaGrange counties. The Office of Community and Rural Affairs administers the grants, which were created to support innovative workforce development and entrepreneurship projects in rural areas. [\[more\]](#)

### Foellinger Foundation gives \$1 million to parks

The Foellinger Foundation will grant \$1 million to the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department and split \$500,000 among 22 local non-profit agencies, the organization announced this morning. The grant funds will be dedicated to development opportunities for staff members. [\[more\]](#)

### USDA Grant Supports Adams County Economic Development

The United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development has awarded a \$100,000 grant to the Adams County Economic Development Corporation. The grant is designed to provide an incentive in business creation, job retention and business expansion in rural areas of Indiana. [\[more\]](#)

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## STUBBEN

Steuben County Emergency Medical Service started a new partnership. Lutheran Air, a resource of Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, will start providing emergency helicopter service in the county on Sept. 1. [\[more\]](#)

## WABASH

North Manchester celebrated the grand opening of its newly-established ethanol production facility, POET, on September 11. Governor Mitch Daniels and POET Chief Executive Officer Jeff Broin attended the event. The company says the plant will produce 65 million gallons of ethanol per year. [\[more\]](#)

Florida-based International Power Group and ForeverGreen Enterprises have announced a joint venture to place a waste-to-energy plant in LaFontaine. This \$227 million waste-to-energy venture is bringing 205 jobs to the LaFontaine Agricultural Park. [\[more\]](#)

## WHITLEY

Micropulse Inc. of Columbia City was named to the Hoosier state's 50 Companies to Watch list. [\[more\]](#)

Ultra Electronics announced today the addition of a new production line at its Undersea Sensors Systems, Inc. division in Columbia City. The addition of this new product line will create up to sixty new production and engineering positions. [\[more\]](#)

