



RIVERVIEWS

NEWS AND VIEWS OF MILWAUKEE'S RIVERWORKS CENTER

A PUBLICATION OF RIVERWORKS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION • SEPTEMBER 2007 • VOLUME 4, NUMBER 3



Harambee mural to be unveiled

While the production of the Harambee Great Neighborhoods Plan (HGPN) has not yet been finalized, the planning group was still able to start some early action projects this summer. One of these was a mural project organized by RDC and Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). The project arose from discussions that took place in the Arts & Culture work committee, one of ten focus groups organized by the HGPN planning committee after a community visioning session on February 10. Six youths between the ages of 15 and 18 were hired to work with Reynaldo Hernandez and his daughter Rozalia Hernandez-Singh, both professional artists. Over a six-week time period, the group developed a 24' X 8' portable mural that represents cultural and historical aspects of the Harambee neighborhood. We are all very impressed with the finished product. The mural is scheduled to be unveiled sometime in late September of 2007.

RDC Workforce Development Assists Area Employers

RDC believes that opportunities for career advancement keep employees engaged, thereby improving employee retention and building a workforce with the skills necessary to become valued employer assets. In addition to offering Industrial Manufacturing Skills (IMS) training, RDC anticipates adding Level II and Level III Press Operator training prior to the end of 2007. The expansion of Press Operator training will provide employers with candidates with a broad and solid range of skills including machine set-up.

We invite you to partner with us in this great endeavor, REMEMBER that RDC can assist you with recruitment, assessment and skilled training. If you believe that the time to prepare

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Message from the Executive Director

Greetings Friends and Supporters:

On July 12, 2007, the 6th Annual Community Development Summit was held at the Italian Center. Mayor Tom Barrett shared his vision for a better Milwaukee. His economic development policy plan included: Link training to new jobs, Inspire youth, Target investment, Support entrepreneurship, Improve transportation and Ensure safe neighborhoods. The Mayor's economic development strategies provide a great foundation for positive things to happen in Milwaukee, more so it establishes the framework for the Riverworks Center growth opportunities along with the resources needed for area businesses to expand and create more jobs. Learn more about this at www.mkedcd.org/planning/EDP.

There are Five Catalytic Projects which the City of Milwaukee will explore that link Milwaukee to the Milwaukee 7 regional vision: Workforce Development, The 'Great Lakes Green Industry Complex' in the 30th street corridor, Fresh Water Research and Technology Center, Life Venture Centers and Centers for Family Prosperity. Riverworks Development Corporation will be deeply involved in two of the five catalytic projects: Workforce Development and Centers for Family Prosperity. We are very excited

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Riverworks Center Featured Business



Steven and Paul Dodulik

Dodco Inc.

Manufacturers of customized,
personalized wire products

Dodco Inc. is a family business whose origins can be traced to 1914 when Steven Dodulik, the youngest of three brothers, left Czechoslovakia to live with his sister in Chicago. In 1916, although he had no experience, he moved to Milwaukee and started the Milwaukee Wire Frame Company, making wrought iron lamps and lampshades. Soon he had enough money to send for his brothers, Louis and Paul, who in 1932 started a wire business: Economy Metal and Wire Products Company.

After WWII people were less enamored of handmade metal work and eventually, in 1966, the Wire Frame Company and Economy Metal and Wire Products Company were merged and renamed Dodco, thereby honoring all three brothers and keeping the family name in the business.

Today Dodco is run by grandsons Steven and Paul Dodulik, while grandson Louis is legal counsel. The company makes all kinds of wire products, which they can also permanently customize by laser etching a company logo, bar code, part number, serial number, instructions or other information onto a wide range of materials.

Dodco is located at 3775 N Holton St. For more information call 414-962-8870 or visit www.dodco.com.

Classes Offered to Help Budding Entrepreneurs

If you have dreamed of starting a small business but do not know how to begin, there is help. The Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC) is a nonprofit organization that assists both women and men interested in starting or expanding small businesses.

More than 300 classes are offered each year that are designed to increase the success of small business ventures.

Executive Director, continued

about the opportunities to expand our training program to work with more area residents for manufacturing job openings and provide one-on-one financial management counseling with families.

As the Riverworks Center continues to grow and businesses expand we must stay competitive in the ways we do commerce. The Milwaukee 7 is an economic development initiative focused on seven Counties of Southeastern Wisconsin: Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Waukesha and Washington. The mission of the Milwaukee 7 is to attract, retain and grow diverse businesses and talent. The Riverworks Center manufacturing businesses can not afford to be left out of the regional collaboration discussion. For more information about the Milwaukee 7 please go to their website: www.choosemilwaukee.com.

Darryl Johnson

Topics include exploring entrepreneurship, business planning, marketing, financing alternatives, and business management.

"We believe in offering numerous services to give people the business assistance they need," said Julann Jateczak, WWBIC Vice President. "Not only do we offer classes, but we also offer small business loans, technical assistance, and money management tools." WWBIC offers classes throughout the metro Milwaukee area as well as in other parts of the state. Most classes are held in the evenings to make it more convenient for entrepreneurs. Some workshops are free; reduced-fee scholarships (based on household income) are offered for others.

To order a free workshop schedule, register for class, or request additional information, call 414-263-5450 or visit the WWBIC website at www.wwbic.com.

Business Ownership Classes Include*

- Are You an Entrepreneur?
Wednesday, August 22, 6:00-8:15pm
- Business Financing Seminar
Tuesday, September 11, 6:00-7:30 pm
Wednesday, October 3, 6:00-7:30 pm
- Will My Business Idea Work?
Wednesday, September 19, 6:00-9:00 pm
- Start Smart Business Planning Series
Orientation, August 27, 6:00-8:00 pm
Classes begin September 10, 6:00-9:00 pm
- Wealth Builders Club
Saturday, October 13, 10 am-noon

* Contact WWBIC for locations and class fees (if applicable).

Workforce, continued

the workforce is now rather than later, please contact Workforce Development Manager, Vanessa White at (414) 906-9650 or by email at vanessaw@riverworksmke.org. Vanessa is also contacting area businesses to identify ways for RDC to assist you with staffing and other needs.

Save This Date: June 23, 2008

First Annual Golf Outing,
Monday, June 23, 2008 at
Brynwood Country Club, 6200
West Good Hope Road. More
information will be announced
in the coming months.