

## ***E-News for our Community Partners***

... an update on community and economic development in Racine County, WI and the Chicago–Milwaukee corridor.



### **The Roadmap**

Racine County Economic Development Corporation  
2320 Renaissance Blvd., Sturtevant, Racine County, Wisconsin USA  
[www.racinecountyedc.org](http://www.racinecountyedc.org)

November, 2008

#### **In this issue:**

[Economic downturn could be a business opportunity](#)  
[Will Chicago Eat Racine?](#)  
[WHEDA announces rural loan fund](#)  
[HSA Commercial groundbreaking ceremony](#)  
[United Way of Racine County campaign reaches final weeks](#)  
[Local News](#)

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*The RCEDC periodically provides information on economic development in Racine County and the Chicago-Milwaukee corridor. We hope you find this short publication helpful and informative.*

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RCEDC apologizes for the brief hiatus over the past few months in delivering you *The Roadmap!* We look forward to providing you regular updates in the future.

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#### **Economic downturn could be a business opportunity**

How can Racine County businesses position themselves for the next business cycle? Inventory YOUR business to prepare for the next business cycle. Here's a start from [The Journal Times](#).

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#### **Will Chicago Eat Racine? – [Milwaukee Magazine](#)**

“Racine is increasingly connecting to Chicago.”

From revitalizing main “gateways” into the City of Racine, to partnering regionally regarding the Great Lakes Water Compact, Racine is ramping up to compete as a part of the Chicago “megaregion” – that is, a cluster of cities whose fates are inextricably linked.

Development is taking place in pockets all over Racine County. Our developments will make us competitive in tourism and business growth, and draw talent to work and live here.

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#### **WHEDA announces rural loan fund – [Business Journal](#)**

The [Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority](#) announced Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, establishment of a

#### **Upcoming Events:**

**December 4th**

**Regional Transit Authority – The Long and Winding Road**

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Italian Community Center  
631 E Chicago St., Milwaukee

How will the RTA Board recommendations and potential funding mechanisms be viewed by business in those three counties? How does each county's desire for closer ties to Chicago factor into southeastern Wisconsin transit?

Sponsored by the Public Policy Forum

RSVP: <http://publicpolicyforum.org/events.php>

**December 8th**

**Sabor Latino – Quarterly Networking Meeting**

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Olde Madrid, 418 Sixth St., Racine

Speakers:  
Nelson Soler, Multicultural Entrepreneurial Institute (MEI) - The Art of Entrepreneurship

And  
Dr. Therese Fellner, HBPA Mentoring Project – RUSD Major Maintenance Projects

Hosted by the Hispanic Business & Professionals Association

RSVP: (262) 308-3543

\$915,000 revolving loan fund for the preservation and revitalization of low-income, multifamily rental housing throughout rural Wisconsin. . . . WHEDA expects to close on an additional \$2.1 million from USDA in January 2009.

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## HSA Commercial groundbreaking ceremony

[As reported on HAS's website](#)

On Tuesday, September 23, Chicago-based HSA Commercial Real Estate broke ground on two new industrial facilities totaling 565,200 square feet in Park 94 at Mt. Pleasant, a 90-acre business park along Interstate 94 in Southeast Wisconsin's Racine County.



The new facilities include one of the first LEED-certified warehouses in the region and constitute the first phase of HSA's new industrial park, which is slated to include seven or more buildings.

Located just 15 miles north of the Illinois-Wisconsin border at the intersection of State Highway 20 and International Drive, Park 94 at Mt. Pleasant is located within a TID district that is part of 950-acre development zone that will accommodate corporate, professional office, hotel, research, light-industrial buildings, retail shops and restaurants in the heart of fast-growing Mt. Pleasant. With access to two

Interstate 94 interchanges and State Highway 20, as well as rail connections, Park 94 offers excellent visibility in the rapidly emerging Chicago-Milwaukee corridor and provides access to labor markets north and south.

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## United Way of Racine County campaign reaches final weeks – [The Journal Times](#)

“United Way’s role in ensuring that all people in Racine County have the building blocks for a good life — education, income and health — has never been greater.”

The United Way of Racine County just missed their goal [last year](#) of \$5.25 million, and this coming year there will be an ever greater need from our communities given the current economic conditions.

If giving to United Way is a tradition for you and your family, consider increasing your gift in these critical times. If you have not ever given to United Way of Racine County, consider a gift this year.

To make a contribution, visit the Web at <http://www.unitedwayracine.org>, call (262) 632-5186 to request pledge materials, or mail a check to United Way of Racine County, 2000 Domanik Drive, Racine, WI 53404.

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## Local News:

[Room to grow: Local company brings new life to the former Acme Diecasting building](#) – The Journal Times

[AEM honors J.I. Case](#) – Business Journal

[Racine County targets commercial centers for growth](#) – Biz Times Milwaukee (formerly Small Business Times)

[HSA acquires industrial building in Sturtevant, Wis.](#) – REJournals.com

AND, Wisconsin also has the most "**Best Companies**" of any state in the Midwest for the fourth year in a row . . . Congratulations Racine County companies:

S.C. Johnson & Son  
Johnson Financial Group, and  
Runzheimer International

See: [Wisconsin Companies Triumph](#) – Department of Commerce newsletter

## Upcoming Events:

December 9th

### Holiday Networking Event

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Cortese Lakeshore Restaurant  
1300 Sheridan Road, Kenosha

Hosted by the Hispanic Business Alliance and the  
Kenosha Chamber of Commerce