

INVESTMENT BY CUMMINS, O&k KICKS OFF NEW YEAR

O&k American and Cummins announced expansion plans during first quarter of the year, and both were granted tax abatement by the Seymour City Council.

On February 28th, Chris White, chief operating officer at O&k, announced that the company would be constructing a new warehouse at the company's location at 1625 Bateman Drive at the East Side Industrial Park.

The new addition, which is valued at \$1.25 million, will allow the company to store raw material and other items "for current and new market penetration," said White.

Two new employees are expected to be added because of the expansion.

On March 27th, Darren Wildman of Cummins attended the council meeting to request abatement on

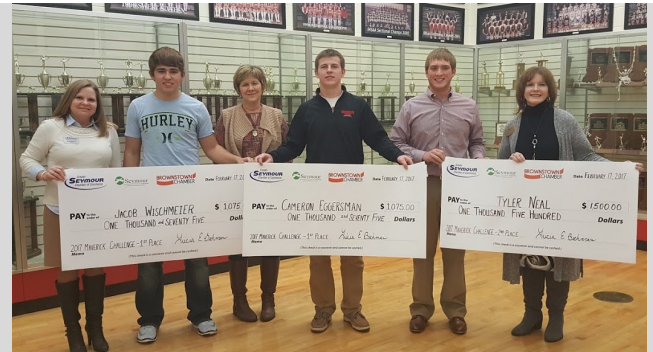
(INVESTMENT Continued on page 2)

NEW BOARD MEMBERS & CONTRIBUTORS

Four new members of the Jackson County Industrial Development Corporation Board of Directors were welcomed during the organization's annual meeting during first quarter of 2017, and new contributors were announced.

Joining the board are Leon Pottschmidt, representing the Jackson County Council and replacing Becky Schepman; Pete Peterson, representing RQAW and replacing Melvin Beeker; Sally Lawson, representing the Town of Brownstown and replacing John Nolting; and Marilyn Price, representing BloomBank, which increased its contribution to JCIDC to board level.

In addition, German American Bank was announced as a new Gold Level contributor. "We are pleased to welcome German American as well as seeing BloomBank become a Board Level supporter of our organization," said Seymour Mayor Craig Luedeman, who serves as vice president of development for JCIDC. "We believe this shows confidence in the work of JCIDC for the betterment of Jackson County."



Maverick Challenge Winners—See story on page 3

From left, Tricia Bechman—Seymour Chamber, Jacob Wischmeier, Jackie Hill—JCIDC, Cameron Eggersman, Tyler Neal, and Arann Banks—Visitors Center

PRETIUM PACKAGING TO CLOSE

Pretium Packaging has announced plans to close its facility in Seymour which will result in the termination of 55 full-time employees and additional temporary workers. The company says the closure is expected to begin in May, and employees will be laid off in 3 phases beginning May 29 and ending September 11. The plant is expected to be completely closed by September 30.

JCIDC will assist WorkOne in the transition of employees, including hosting a "Destination Hire Me" job fair on May 16-17 (See article on pg. 3).

Pretium, headquartered in Missouri, began operations at Freeman Field in 1997 after acquiring the assets of Travomatic (which was established in Seymour in 1970). The company has 12 plant locations in the U.S. and Canada, and makes plastic container and closure products for various markets, including food, household cleaning, and personal care.

Aisin Visits Governor's Office



Members of Aisin's executive team met with Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb (seated center right) in January to better introduce the company to the newly-elected Governor. Those attending included Toshio Tanaka, President & CEO, Aisin Holdings of America, Inc.; Scott Turpin, President & CEO, Aisin World Corp. of America; Makoto Endo, President, Aisin U.S.A. Manufacturing, Inc.; Jeff Nordman, EVP, Aisin U.S.A. Manufacturing, Inc.; Masayuki Isogami, President, Aisin Chemical Indiana, LLC; and Takami Noda, EVP, Aisin World Corp. of America. Also attending were Seymour Mayor Craig Luedeman and JCIDC Executive Director, Jim Plump.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT—Kevin Gabbard, President

Plans for a new corporate office building, construction of a “shell” building, strong investment totals, and continued emphasis on workforce development highlight economic activities during 2016.

As Jackson County Industrial Development Corporation begins its 33rd year of existence in 2017, I am pleased to once again report an excellent year as the economy remains strong throughout South Central Indiana.

In January 2016, TDAK broke ground on a new 70,000 square foot, expandable spec building at Seymour's East Side Industrial Park in partnership with Seymour Industrial Corporation. By the 4th quarter completion, several new and existing companies were expressing interest in the facility.

Rose Acre Farms broke ground on a new 27,000 square foot corporate office building during 2nd quarter, in addition to purchasing and renovating another building, also on the city's west side.

These projects, when combined with 10 others from companies such as Aisin U.S.A., Aisin Chemical, Cummins, Kremers Urban, O&k American, and Valeo, totaled \$76,730,277 in promised investment during the year. This was up from \$56,256,661 in 2015, and continued to add to the growing investment since the downturn in 2010. Over the past five years, promised industrial investment has exceeded \$635 million.

Of course, with the continued investment and growth comes additional pressures on the workforce. JCIDC's Workforce Partnership continued its good work through the successful application of a state grant that ultimately will invest over \$300,000 into training in Jackson and Jennings counties. That was announced during the 4th quarter, as was expansion of cooperation with the Jackson County Education Coalition that will result in further growth of the Partnership's work.

This industrial expansion has enabled Jackson County to continue its growth in population, wages and overall improvement to our quality of life. One of the key indicators of this is the annual POLICOM Corporation's rankings of metropolitan and micropolitan areas. In the U.S., there are 536 micropolitan areas (less than 50,000 population but with at least 1 city of 10,000 or more) and Seymour was ranked 93rd in the nation for economic strength. By comparison, there are 381 metropolitan areas (they must include at least one city over 50,000 population) in the U.S.

As President of the JCIDC Board of Directors, I can truly say we are blessed to have an excellent Board and staff that works with an outstanding corporate community to help create an environment where this growth can occur.

JCIDC welcomed a number of new sponsors during 2016 (we now receive funds from 90 entities), and I would be remiss if I did not mention a generous donation of a new Toyota Highlander to our organization by the Aisin companies in Jackson County. Our executive director is driving this vehicle, which features nearly 100 parts that are manufactured by Aisin companies.

Among other highlights of the year was our annual “Reports, Reviews and Rewards” luncheon that featured Gerry Dick, host and creator of “Inside Indiana Business”, and our sponsorship of the 2nd annual “Industry Showcase” at the Jackson County Fair.

2016 was, indeed, another great year. We hope for this success to continue going forward, and I am confident it will, given the continued support of our contributors, industries, Board and staff.



JCIDC Hosts IUPUC Vice Chancellor

Dr. Reinhold Hill, IUPUC vice chancellor and dean at IUPUC, addressed the Seymour-Jackson County business community during a reception hosted by JCIDC in January at the Seymour Country Club.

Dr. Hill began his tenure at the Columbus campus in July 2016. In addition to his role as vice chancellor, Hill is also a professor of English. He previously served as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Governors State University in Chicago's southland. Prior to his work at Governors State, Hill held leadership positions at Ferris State University, including department head of the Department of Languages and Literature as well as associate dean and interim dean for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Jackson County students represented the second largest population at the campus (12%) during 2016, and 131 of the 179 students from Jackson County were enrolled full-time, according to Hill. In addition, 12 members of the IUPUC faculty are Jackson County residents.

JCIDC executive director Jim Plump serves on the IUPUC Board of Advisors.

(INVESTMENT continued from page 1)

new investment of \$2,279,000 at its location on Second Street in Seymour.

Of the new investment, \$1,185,000 will be for new equipment and the balance (\$1,094,000) is for real property improvements, including changes to office, production and test cell areas.

At the same council meeting, Cummins also presented its compliance for previous abatements. Since the announcement of the “Hedgehog” project in 2010, the company has invested over \$280 million and created nearly 700 jobs.

Brownstown Earns 2nd Place at Maverick Challenge Regional Competition

Cameron Eggersman and Jacob Wischmeier, Brownstown Central High School students, won the annual Maverick Challenge county competition and went on to place second at the regional competition in Columbus. Their business plan, "Cover Crop Seeder", earned them \$2,150 at the county level and an additional \$1,500 at the regional level. Placing second at the county level and also competing at the regional competition was Jeffrey Tyler Neal with his business plan, "Hunt Safely, LLC". Neal received \$1,500.

The Maverick Challenge is a high school business planning competition for high school students in Southern Indiana. The Maverick Challenge aims to further develop the innovative spirit of our region by reaching out to high school students and showing them viable career opportunities through entrepreneurship.

Twenty two teams involving 33 students from three schools in Jackson County developed business plans. In addition to the first and second place teams, other finalists from the county were Gavin Bane, Emily Kleman, Derek Rieckers, Andrew Scarlett, Delaney Friend, Jacob Joray, Seth Hatchett, Shelbie Browning, Suzzanna Kramer, and Erica Reynolds.

The Jackson County Maverick Challenge is a partnership between JCIDC Workforce Partnership and the Seymour and Brownstown Chambers of Commerce. Funding sponsors for the program are JCB, Old National Bank, MainSource Bank, Peoples Bank, Ivy Tech, and JCIDC. Since the program launch in 2011, over 200 students from four Jackson County high schools have been awarded \$36,100 at the county and regional competitions.

DESTINATION HIRE ME

"Destination Hire Me" is an upcoming event aimed at creating awareness of educational and occupational opportunities in Jackson County. The event, sponsored by the JCIDC Workforce Partnership, will be held at Celebrations in Seymour on Tuesday, May 16th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and on Wednesday, May 17th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Check out the schools in our county and discover what they have to offer in curriculum, programming, extra curricular activities, view student demonstrations, and talk with school professionals in attendance. Representatives from various schools and organizations ranging from Pre-K to Post Secondary institutions will be in attendance.

In addition, many of the county employers will be present with officials on hand to talk with attendees about job and career opportunities within their companies. Whether you are a graduating high school or college senior looking for a job, a student looking for summer employment/internships, or an individual looking for employment, bring your resume and check out the career opportunities available in Jackson County.

More information, including participating schools and companies, will be coming soon through media outlets and social media.

OCRA Grant Award

Jackson County received a \$250,000 grant from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) for a Jackson-Jennings County Workforce Initiative to provide workforce training. It is estimated a minimum of 127 people will be trained over a 2-year program period.



Pictured from left: Bill Konyha, Executive Director, OCRA; Eric Koch, IN State Senator District #44; Trena Carter, Manager of Municipal Programs, Administrative Resources Association (ARA); Bob Gillaspay, Jackson County Commissioners; Trish Speer, Workforce Coordinator, Jennings County Economic Development Commission; Jackie Hill, Workforce Director, JCIDC; Suzanne Crouch, Indiana Lieutenant Governor.

Meet JCIDC's Intern

Seymour High School's Professional Career Internship (PCI) program enables students with specific, targeted career objectives to be placed in work based learning assignments offering them real life experiences not possible in a standard classroom. The program develops good business-school relationships encouraging young adults to seek job and career opportunities in their local communities.

Griffin Sciarra was hired in as JCIDC's intern on January 25th and has assisted the staff in various projects. Griffin is a senior at SHS and plans to attend Ball State University, major undecided. While in high school, Griffin has been a 4-year member of the soccer team, a D.A.R.E. Role Model, and a member of the National Honor Society.

2017 Board of Directors

Kevin Gabbard, President

(MainSource Bank)

Curt Kovener, V.P.

(Town of Crothersville)

Craig Luedeman, V.P.

(City of Seymour)

Jeff Morning, Secretary

(Brownstown Chamber of Commerce)

Marvin Veatch, Treasurer

(Jackson County Bank)

Cheryl Baker

(HWC Engineering)

Arann Banks

(Jackson County Visitor Center)

Tricia Bechman

(Seymour Chamber of Commerce)

Dan Davis

(Community Foundation)

Scott Davis

(Seymour Aviation Authority)

Ray Eakins

(Old National Bank)

Kathryn Elkins

(LIRC)

Rodney Farrow

(City of Seymour)

Warren Forgey

(Schneck Medical Center)

Rob Hooker

(County School Superintendents)

Kevin Johnson

(Ranger Enterprises LLC)

Sally Lawson

(Town of Brownstown)

Chip Orben

(Duke Energy)

Pete Peterson

(RQAW Corporation)

Fred Pollert

(Seymour Industrial Corporation)

Leon Potts Schmidt

(Jackson County Council)

Marilyn Price

(BloomBank)

Brad Pritchett

(Jackson County REMC)

Matt Reedy

(County Commissioners)

John Sadtler

(SIHO)

Lonn Stuckwisch

(Berkshire Hathaway)

Mike Weir

(Town of Medora)

Brian Wheeler

(Brownstown EDA)

Aubrey Woods

(The Tribune)

Wynn Wright

(Indiana American Water)

JCICD Staff

Jim Plump

Mary Winburn

Jackie Hill

Jody Deckard

2017 Contributors

Board Level

Berkshire Hathaway
BloomBank
Brownstown Chamber
Brownstown EDA
Brownstown Town Board
City of Seymour
Community Foundation
County Council
County Commissioners
Crothersville Town Board
Duke Energy
HWC Engineering
Indiana-America Water
Jackson County Bank
Jackson County REMC
Jackson County Visitor Center
Louisville & Indiana Railroad
MainSource Bank
Medora Town Board
Old National Bank
RQAW Corporation
Ranger Enterprises LLC
Schneck Medical Center
Seymour Aviation Authority
Seymour Chamber
Seymour Industrial Corp.
SIHO
The Tribune

Gold Level

Aisin USA Manufacturing
Biehle Electric
DEEM, LLC
German American Bank
Peoples Bank
Royalty Companies
Runnebohm Construction
Seymour Tubing, Inc.
SpaceGuard
Vernon Township Trustee

Silver Level

Aisin Chemical Indiana
Andersons
Cornerstone Environmental
Dunlap Construction
Force Construction
Gaylor Electric
Goecker Construction
Harmon Construction
Kenny Glass
King's Trucking
Kremers Urban
Lawyer Excavation
Marmon Retail Products
Metronet
MEP
Milestone
O&k American Corp.

Silver continued...

Pollerts' Inc.
Rumpke of Indiana
State Bank of Medora
Vectren
Bronze Level
B&H Electric
Blue & Company
Rose Acre Farms
Shelby Materials
Wayman & Associates

Contributor Level

Aisin Drivetrain, Inc.
Cooler Design, Inc.
Mark Dennis & Co., CPA
Harrell-Fish Inc.
Independent Land Survey
Jackson Co. Water Utility
Midwest Natural Gas
Mussett Nicholas
Eric Reedy & Assoc.
Rust Construction
Shepherd Insurance
Strand Associates

Workforce

Partnership

Aisin Chemical Indiana
Aisin Drivetrain, Inc.
Aisin Holdings of America
Aisin USA Mfg.
Brownstown Schools
City of Seymour
Columbus Container
Columbus Education
Coalition
Community Foundation
Elwood Staffing
Excel Manufacturing
Excel Tool
E & H Tubing, d/b/a
Indiana Steel & Tube
Jackson County Visitor
Center
Jackson County Education
Coalition
Kremers Urban
Marmon Retail Products
O&k American
PD Pharmatech
R.R. Donnelley
Schneck Medical Center
Seymour Engine Plant
Seymour Tubing, Inc.
Touchpoint Packaging
Valeo North America Inc.
Wal-Mart Distribution

Special Event Sponsors

Aisin Group	Force Construction	Louisville & Indiana Railroad	Schneck Medical Center
Beatty Insurance	Harrell-Fish Inc.	MainSource Bank	SIHO
Berkshire Hathaway	Indiana American Water	Old National Bank	Tribune
Duke Energy	Jackson County Bank	Bob Poynter of Seymour	