

What's News

Internship Recognition Dinner

The GEDC will be hosting an internship recognition dinner on August 3rd. The dinner is for the interns, their parents, and business sponsors to celebrate the end of the 2017 Grundy County Internship Program.

Save the Date - September 13

The GEDC is bringing back the Fall Networking Event. The event will be held Wednesday, September 13th at the Eriennna Hunt Club in Morris. Plan to join us for an evening of great food and networking with other local community and business leaders. Invitations will be sent out in the near future.

Prospects

Project Swiss

A RFP was received for a 1.5 million square foot distribution facility looking for sites in Grundy County. Approximately a \$55-65 million investment with 180 employees. Sites have been submitted.

Solar Energy

National solar energy company is looking for 500-700 acres sites in Grundy County to construct a utility scale project that could generate 50MW or greater. The company met with the County and is negotiating a land contract on a Grundy County site.

Calendar

- Aug. 3** Intern/Parent
Recognition Dinner
Aug. 11 Executive Meeting
Sept. 4 Labor Day

Out and About Promoting Grundy County

Union Pacific RR hosted the GEDC for a weekend in Omaha. Grundy County has multiple sites served by the railroad and this was a great opportunity to strategize with the development team about the best ways to drive new rail investment to the county.

Select USA is a trade show sponsored by the US Department of Commerce for global companies interested in investing in the USA. GEDC and other statewide economic development organizations worked the Illinois booth promoting the region to more than 2,500 international attendees.

TownePlace Suites Breaks Ground

A groundbreaking was held for the newest hotel in Minooka. The TownePlace Suites Marriot is an extended stay hotel and will have 87 guestrooms. The project is being developed by Kinseth Development, the same firm that developed the Hampton Inn. The hotel is expected to be open in the fall of 2018.



Grundy's Good News

- Grundy County's Gross Regional Product has grown significantly since 2013, up from \$2.8 billion to \$3.2 billion in three years.
- Total exports from Grundy also grew over the same period, from \$4.04 billion in 2013 to \$4.47 billion in 2016.
- Grundy continues to lead the state and nation in median household income, and ranked 7th of 102 counties in Illinois in 2015.
- Poverty levels declined in the county, state, and nation in 2015, with Grundy still well below state and national poverty levels.

Visit the [GEDC website](#) to view the entire Grundy County Economic Review for additional data on the county.

Statewide News

Despite all the bad news about Illinois, the state still remains the dominant economy in the Midwest. "The Chicago Metropolitan Area remains, and will remain, as the talent magnet of the central United States. The area attracts over 30,000 new college graduates every year and has an existing labor force of over 9 million people in its sixty mile radius. In Chicago, the percent of workers with a college education has increased 74% over the past twenty years. No other city in the country, except New York City, can claim such a deep, educated, and diverse employee base for companies seeking top talent."

Source: JLL Research