

Greetings!

# BE RESILIENT

## FALL DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT

BHRC Members and Staff cordially invite you to join us for our third annual Fall Development Summit on October 28th at the Lake Carroll Clubhouse. Details and RSVP information are below and [available online](#).

### 10/28 AGENDA

Location: Lake Carroll Clubhouse, 29-11 Ironwood Dr, Lanark, IL

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|--------------|---|
| <b>8:15</b>  | <b>Registration Open/Breakfast</b>  |
| <b>8:45</b>  | <b>Introductory Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Blackhawk Hills Regional Council</li><li>• USDA Rural Development</li><li>• Center for Small Business Development at SVCC</li></ul> |
| <b>9:00</b>  | <b>“Creating Opportunities for Retention &amp; Expansion”</b><br>Victor Narusis, Deputy Director, DCEO  |
| <b>10:00</b> | <b>“A Threat’s a Threat, No Matter How Small”</b><br>James Marks, Manager, Wipfli<br>Anthony Troxell, Manager, Wipfli   |
| <b>11:20</b> | <b>Break &amp; Networking</b>   |
| <b>11:35</b> | <b>Panel Discussion: “Attracting &amp; Retaining Millennials”</b>   |
| <b>12:20</b> | <b>Lunch</b>  |
| <b>12:30</b> | <b>“The Big Green: Park Impacts on Local Economies”</b><br>David Marcouiller, Professor, UW-Madison   |
| <b>1:30</b>  | <b>Concluding Remarks</b>   |

# PRESENTERS/PANELISTS



**Victor Narusis, DCEO** | [victor.narusis@illinois.gov](mailto:victor.narusis@illinois.gov)

Narusis is Deputy Director of DCEO's Office of Business Development. He and his team engage existing Illinois and out-of-state businesses, quarterbacks projects, and collaborate with economic development leaders and municipalities throughout the state. His team also works to grow and expand target industry clusters and to pool resources among educational institutions, utilities, transportation, and other partners.



**James Marks, Wipfli** | [jmarks@wipfli.com](mailto:jmarks@wipfli.com)

As a member of Wipfli LLP's risk advisory and forensic services practice, Marks performs information technology examinations and consulting engagements. He focuses primarily on information security for financial institutions. Marks has over twenty years of technology experience.



**Anthony Troxell, Wipfli** | [ttroxell@wipfli.com](mailto:ttroxell@wipfli.com)

Troxell is a manager in the firm's audit and accounting practice, focused on providing commercial, manufacturing, benefit plan, nonprofit, and governmental audit services. He provides reviews and compilations for various commercial and manufacturing companies. Troxell works with clients to help them strengthen internal controls and implement financial reporting practices.



**David Marcouiller, UW-Madison** | [dave.marcouiller@wisc.edu](mailto:dave.marcouiller@wisc.edu)

Marcouiller's work focuses on the linkages between natural resources and rural economic development with a particular interest in the mechanisms behind income generation and distribution to rural households. In addition to planning, he interact professionally in related fields of regional science, resource economics, community development, natural resource management, and tourism/recreation/leisure science.

## **Panelists - "Attracting & Retaining Millennials"**

Jennifer Smith, The CitySmiths

Michael Smith, The CitySmiths

Nik Jakobs, Jakobs Brothers Farms

Emily Kinnaman, Tri-County Economic Development Alliance

Lexie Woodward, Former Peace Corps Fellow

## **Upcoming Events**

October 28

[Fall Development Summit](#)

All Day Event

Lake Carroll Clubhouse Restaurant, 29-11 Ironwood Dr, Lanark, IL 61046, USA

November 28

[BHRC Council Meeting](#)

Mon, Nov 28, 2016, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Heritage Center, 106 S Broad St, Lanark, IL 61046, United States

November 29

[County Board Chairs Meeting](#)

Tue, Nov 29, 2016, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

## **Staff Updates**

### **Daniel Payette Named Executive Director**

Payette has worked at BHRC since 2011, serving as both outreach coordinator and planning manager. During that period, he supported the deployment of the nine-county iFiber network, updates to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), and numerous community and regional planning projects. Payette is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Department of Urban and Regional Planning. A current resident and native of Shannon, IL, he will take on operational and strategic responsibilities, as well as oversight of employees, programs, and projects. "Our governing board believes that Dan's professional demeanor, organizational knowledge, and work in local communities makes him a strong leadership fit," stated Ed Juracek, BHRC president. "I have great confidence in him."

*Former Executive Director Theresa Wittenauer began her new position as Lee County Administrator in August.*

### **Andrew Shaw, GIS Mapping & Enterprise Zone Specialist, Moves to Full Time**

Shaw has worked part-time for BHRC since 2013 and is experienced in economic development, GIS mapping, and data analysis. He participates in the Illinois Enterprise Zone Association and has worked with local zones on expansion, eligibility testing, and new applications. In addition, he helped oversee the former Carroll County Economic Development Corporation. Shaw, a graduate of Northern Illinois University, holds a master's degree in Urban Geography. A native of Carroll County, Shaw currently lives in Dixon, IL. Juracek noted about Shaw, "Andy has taken the initiative to expand the council's scope and impact in local communities. We look forward to using his talents to an even greater degree as a full-time employee of BHRC."

### **Lexie Woodward Hired as Planning & Digital Content Fellow**

Woodward is an alum of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs Peace Corps Fellow Program in Community Development. As a part of the program, she spent eleven months as Community Economic Development Intern for the City of Lanark and received her master's in Recreation, Park, & Tourism Administration from Western Illinois University. Woodward recently achieved Professional Community Economic Development certification.

## **Notice of Award**

BHRC was awarded a \$103,000 partnership planning grant from the Economic Development Administration (U.S. Department of Commerce). The funding will enable BHRC to maintain the region's economic development district (EDD) and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Read more [here](#).

## **Grants**

### **[GRO1000 Gardens and Green Spaces Grant Awards Program, US Conference of Mayors & Scotts Miracle-Gro Company](#)**

Promotes mayoral leadership in the development of greenscapes across the nation. Every municipality in the United States may nominate one new or one substantial addition to an existing public garden, edible garden, or green space within their community. All garden and green space projects initiated by city governments are eligible, including projects developed with community garden groups and other community partners. The four focal areas of the GRO1000 program include: Outdoor Play - creating natural playgrounds for youth, Urban Revitalization - transforming vacant and abandoned properties, Nature Gardens - increasing pollinator-friendly gardens and landscapes, and Food Deserts - providing access to fresh healthy foods. Four winning cities will each receive a total of \$40,000 in monetary funds and products. The application deadline is **November 15**.

### **[Assistance to Firefighters Grant \(AFG\) Program \(Federal Emergency Management Agency\)](#)**

The primary goal of the AFG Program is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, non-affiliated Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations, and State Fire Training Academies (SFTA) for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. Closing date is **November 18**.

### [Academy Grants Program \(Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences\)](#)

Seeks to inspire imagination and connect the world through the medium of motion pictures. The program is currently accepting grant applications from nonprofit organizations in two areas: FilmWatch grants support curated screening programs at North America-based film festivals, film societies, and other film-related organizations. Targeted programs include those that create culturally diverse viewing experiences, promote motion pictures as an art form, provide a platform for underrepresented artists, and cultivate new and dedicated audiences for theatrical film. FilmCraft grants support high-quality educational programs that identify and empower future filmmakers from nontraditional backgrounds. Targeted programs include those that encourage an appreciation of film as both a vocation and an art form, and those that provide hands-on opportunities for participants to gain the filmmaking skills they need to tell their stories. Grants range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. The application deadline for both grant programs is **November 18**.

### [Rural Health Networks Funded \(Health Resources and Services Administration\)](#)

Supports mature, integrated rural healthcare networks that have combined the functions of the entities participating in the network in order to address the healthcare needs of the targeted rural community. Application deadline is **November 28**.

### [Community Food Projects \(CFP\) Competitive Grants Program, USDA](#)

Provides support to meet the food needs of low-income individuals, increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their food needs, and promote comprehensive responses to local food access, farm, and nutrition issues. The application deadline is **November 30**.

### **Illinois Energy Efficiency Incentives**

The state's [Public Sector Energy Efficiency](#) program is operational again. If you plan to upgrade lighting, HVAC, kitchen equipment, etc., at a public building or property, incentives are available to do so. Furthermore, the [Savings Through Efficient Products](#) program is accepting waitlist entries for free energy efficiency equipment (LED exit signs, occupancy sensors, vending machine controls, screw-in LEDs, etc.). For the above, you must be a ComEd or Nicor Gas customer to qualify (for electrical and natural gas incentives, respectively). If you are interested in applying and need assistance, please let BHRC know.

## **Other News**

October is National Community Planning Month. Click [here](#) for more details.

IDOT will host webinars on the Multi-Year Program, which covers all aspects of state transportation system. Click [here](#) for more details.

# **BLACKHAWK HILLS** Regional Council



Jo Daviess ● Stephenson ● Carroll ● Ogle ● Whiteside ● Lee