



# The Development Association INC

*Serving Superior & Douglas County, Wisconsin*

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## E Bulletin May 2011 -Vol. 8, Issue 1

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### Nominations Sought for Superior Business Awards

The Development Association, The Chamber, the Entrepreneur Fund, the Superior Business Improvement District, the Superior Business Center and the University of Wisconsin-Superior Small Business Development Center is issuing a call from nominations for the 2011 Superior Business Awards.

The Superior Business Awards encompasses six award categories:

**Business Hall of Fame (for entrepreneurs in the period for the previous 50 years from the current year). Must be an individual living or deceased.**

**Historial Business Hall of Fame (for entrepreneurs that operated businesses that existed prior to the last 50 years). Must be an individual living or deceased.**

**Small Business of the Year (more than 5 years in business with 25 or fewer employees)**

**Large Business of the Year (more than 5 years in business with over 25 employees)**



**Emerging Innovative Business (in business for at least 2 years but no more than 5 years with an innovative product, process or technology)**

**Business Plan Competition (business plan submitted by an entrepreneur for a start-up of a for-profit business or business expansion)**

Eligible businesses must be located in, or entrepreneurs must reside in Douglas County, Wisconsin. Hall of Fame nominees must be individuals (living or deceased) who reside/resided in Douglas County or who own/owned and operate/operated a for-profit business in Douglas County. Businesses nominated must be for-profit businesses.

Winners of the 2010 Superior Business Awards included: Lyman T. Powell and Henry Kari (Superior Business Hall of Fame), Fraser Shipyards (Large Business of the Year), Rob's Custom Millwork & Drawers (Small Business of the Year), Thirsty Pagan (Emerging Innovative Business) and Solon Springs Express Lube (Business Plan Competition).

The deadline for nominations is July 15, 2011. Awards will be announced at a banquet to be held on September 15, 2011. Nomination forms are available on-line at: The Development Association website [www.developmentassociation.com](http://www.developmentassociation.com) or by calling The Chamber at 715-394-7716 or the Development Association 715-392-4749.

The 2011 Superior Business Awards Program is sponsored by The Development Association, The Chamber, the Superior Business Improvement District, the Superior Business Center, Entrepreneur Fund, UW-Superior Small Business Development Center, Superior Rotary Club 40, westmorelandflint and B-105.

### Member Profile: Superior Business Center

One of the biggest barriers in getting a new business off the ground is finding the funds and management support. As one of the area's only multitenant business incubator facilities, the Superior Business Center helps entrepreneurs get started by providing flexible and affordable office space and management/operation resources for both existing and start-up small businesses.

SBC began in 1989 as a joint venture of the Development Association, the University of Wisconsin-Superior, the City of Superior, and Douglas County. With its primary goal of fostering economic growth, SBC benefits tenants through lower overhead expenses, shared office equipment, phone answering and secretarial services, and opportunities to access entrepreneurial training.



Over the years, 20 businesses have moved from SBC to other spaces, including the regional economic news publication BusinessNorth and Northern Waters Smokehaus in Canal Park.

"Our goal is to nurture businesses and work with them as they grow," says 11-year SBC manager Michelle McKercher, who also serves on the board of directors for the Wisconsin Business Incubation Association. As businesses outgrow SBC, McKercher says staff helps them find operative spaces outside the facility.

Thirty-five people currently work at the facility, which is home to 11 businesses, including a lab manufacturer, a copier sales and service company, a door manufacturer, a uniform service business, and four culinary businesses that utilize SBC's U.S.D.A.-certified commercial kitchen.

As an entity managed and operated by the Development Association, SBC works efficiently alongside the city of Superior, Douglas County and the area's existing businesses to keep the regional economy not only stabilized, but also growing, says McKercher.

### The Development Association's 51st Annual Meeting

On Friday, May 13, 2011, over 115 individuals attended the luncheon held at Barker's Island Inn.

Guest speaker, Paul Jadin, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Commerce outlined Governor Scott Walker's plans to transition Commerce into the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, a public private partnership. The new structure will significantly increase the resources needed to bring more jobs to the state.

WEDC will help the state achieve Governor Walker's goal of creating 250,000 new jobs.

The new WEDC will create four functional areas.

- \*Economic and Community Development
- \*Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- \*Industry Development
- \*Marketing

More resources will be devoted to marketing research. The addition of an Economist, that will target segments of the economy that are emerging and looking at business expansion and relocations.

Annual marketing spending will increase to \$5 million from \$22,000.

Small business assistance will be available, as well as venture capital and angel investments.

Secretary Jadin expects that 200,000 of the 250,000 job goal will come from Wisconsin through expansions and new home grown companies.

The WEDC will be established on July 1, 2011.

Matt Moroney, Deputy Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources also addressed the group.

**The Early Adopter Project Film Premiere**



the  
**EARLY ADOPTER**  
project

Business meets Sustainability.

A documentary by Chani Becker

**Film Premiere**

**Thursday, July 28th at Zinema 2 Theatre**

222 E. Superior Street, Duluth • Free Admission

**Premiere Party** hosted by Sustainable Twin Ports

**Film Screening follows**

Limited seating ~ RSVP to [info@sustainabletwinports.org](mailto:info@sustainabletwinports.org)

Funded by the Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Becker Charitable Fund and the Global Awareness Fund of the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation.

**Development Association New Members**

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**Diamond and Platinum Level Members**



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