

February 5, 2006

To The Editor:

January 17th the Greene County Economic Development Committee held its second meeting, which was well attended. Our guest speaker was Shari Albrecht, Central Region Account Manager for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Shari talked about the “Six Key Drivers of Rural and Small Town Economic Development.” Sub committees reported findings on value added agriculture and the business survey committee reported its progress. Our next meeting is February 16, 2006 at the courthouse in Carrollton.

Regarding Greene County Economic Development, I have just learned that the legislature is scheduled to vote on a capital bill that includes funding for the Rt. 67 expansion through Greene County. I think we all understand the importance of this road project for our area. What we need are letters to the editor explaining what the Rt. 67 project means to our county. This is an opportunity for community leaders, business owners and Greene County citizens to be heard and let the Governor and the legislature know how we feel about “Corridor 67”. Unfortunately the deadline for these letters is short as the Governor is scheduled to talk about the road project during his budget address on February 15th and letters must be in the hands of Shari Albrecht prior to Feb. 15. Copies of the letters can be emailed directly to salbrecht@ildceo.net or mailed to Shari Albrecht, 19162 Streeb Lane, Staunton, IL 62088. Let us not remain silent on this legislation that can bring economic growth to Greene County.

If anyone has questions regarding the “letters to the editor” or the Greene County Economic Development Committee please contact me at 217-368-3606 or sschmidt@netjax.com.

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