

A LETTER FROM AN SCEDC INTERN

By Andrew Malan

As the marketing and design intern for the SCEDC, I have the privilege of making graphic elements like this newsletter for the betterment of Seward County. It's always my wish that these kinds of things bring smiles to readers' faces and that they feel good about where we are blessed to live.

I attend Concordia University here in Seward. Right now, I'm working towards marketing and journalism degrees. I run track and field for the University and work for its newspaper, The Sower. I'm also proud to be a member of the jazz band and pep band.

Last school year, I realized that I was nearing the end of my college career and was struggling to find the right internship. I started to get worried that I was going to have to go back to work at the same old grocery store last summer and would be no closer to reaching my professional goals.

One day in geography class, my professor informed us of an internship opportunity in Seward for economic development. I didn't really have any idea what kind of job it would be, but I looked into it and got in touch with Jonathan.

In our interview, I distinctly remember one question that he asked. "Are you passionate about Seward County?" I didn't have to make anything up or over-exaggerate. Right away after he asked, I realized that I loved living in Seward. Having the chance to spend the summer here would make me very happy.

As they say, the rest is history. Jonathan hired me as an intern for the summer, and I truly felt accomplished. I was so excited to get to stay here. After the summer, he asked me if I'd be able to continue to serve the SCEDC. I was happy to, and still am.

Over the past year, I've learned how much I love Seward and the other towns I had the chance to visit. I've met wonderful people and realized that there's so much more to this place than meets the eye. Sometimes, you just have to walk in the door of a small business around here to realize how much we have in Seward County.

I'm thankful I got to know Seward County in this lifetime.

SCEDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR VISITS INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING EXPO IN ATLANTA

Jonathan Jank, Executive Director of the SCEDC, visited Atlanta, Georgia from Jan. 28 - 30. Jank visited Atlanta to attend the International Production and Processing Expo (IPPE) to market business opportunities in Seward County.

The 2014 IPPE brought together more than 1,100 exhibitors and thousands of attendees to the Expo. Jank was able to promote the Seward/Lincoln Regional Rail Campus at the Expo.

"While we braved the worst snowstorm in Atlanta in decades, it was still a very productive trip with a good economic development team," Jank said. "We were able to work together to establish some good relationships and leads for future recruitment projects," he said.

The visit was a collaboration between the Lincoln Area Development Partnership, the Nebraska Public Power District and the Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development.

SCEDC TO EXHIBIT AT THE NEBRASKA BUILDERS HOME AND GARDEN SHOW

The Seward County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) and four partner organizations will be setting up a booth to market Seward County from Feb. 7-9 at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln, Neb.

The Nebraska Builders Home and Garden Show is put on by the Home Builders Association of Lincoln. The Show is in its 42nd year.

The exposition allows visitors, attendees and fellow exhibitors to interact with many contacts in the building and construction industry in southeast Nebraska. The event will feature nearly 300 businesses at the Lancaster Event Center.

The SCEDC will market development opportunities in Seward County, as well as deliver information to fellow exhibitors regarding the recently completed Seward County Housing Study.

The Study presents development opportunities for builders in the county. The county is seeking those in construction to do business in the area as it works toward meeting its housing construction goals as laid out in the Study.

Home builders, remodelers, landscapers, financing corporations, flooring specialists and windows specialists will make up the 300+ exhibitors.

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THREE WINNERS DRAWN FROM HOUSING STUDY SURVEYS

As Seward County compiled survey data to complete the Seward County Housing Study in late 2013, the SCEDC hosted drawings to award \$50 to three different survey participants. Clarence Pozehl was the recipient of a \$50 prize for completing the Elderly Persons Household Survey. Andrew Garske received a \$50 prize for completing the Seward County Housing Study. Bern Kozisek received \$50 for completing the Workforce Housing Needs Survey. Prize money was donated by the SCEDC, the Milford Chamber of Commerce and the Seward Area Chamber of Commerce.

SAVE THE DATE

SCEDC Lunch & Learn - February 6 at 11:30am
The SCEDC invites you to the February edition of its Lunch and Learn event. The event will be hosted at the Thom Leadership Education Center, Room 111, on the campus of Concordia University. The keynote speaker will be Clover Frederick delivering a presentation titled, "Getting the Most of Your Small Marketing Department." To reserve a spot at the first Lunch and Learn of 2014, e-mail Jonathan Jank: Director@SewardRegional.com.

COST: Free or \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.