



Tipton County

NEWS & VIEWS

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Pioneer Announces Expansion Plans in Tipton

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., a DuPont subsidiary, has announced plans for a \$1.6 million expansion at its seed quality facility in Tipton, Ind., adding an additional 10,000 square feet. Scheduled for completion in June 2006, the expansion will better accommodate the growing volume of germination and seed purity tests conducted at the location - tests that are vital to ensuring growers receive the highest-quality seed products.

“This additional space will better position Pioneer to manage the increased number of seed products that pass through the Tipton facility as well as meet customer demand for new Pioneer products,” said Patricia Skiles, facility manager.

According to Skiles, the Tipton location initially conducted approx. 10,000 maize germination and genetic purity tests a year. But, as a result of growth in quality assurance responsibilities, including the addition of several different crops, the facility now handles more than 83,000 tests annually.

Germination tests are conducted to determine the potential for Pioneer® brand corn, soybean, wheat and sorghum hybrids and varieties to germinate and develop into healthy seedlings, while genetic purity tests identify the genetic components of the seed that is needed to produce desired attributes.

In operation since 1981 the seed quality facility at Tipton employs nine full- and part-time and 24 seasonal employees. Excavation work for the expansion will start in November, and building construction will continue through the winter and spring months as weather permits.

Pioneer is the world's leading source of customized solutions for farmers, livestock producers and grain and oilseed processors. With headquarters in Des Moines, Iowa, Pioneer provides access to advanced plant genetics, crop protection solutions and quality crop systems to customers in nearly 70 countries. DuPont is a science company. Founded in 1802, DuPont puts science to work by creating sustainable solutions essential to a better, safer, healthier life for people everywhere. Operating in more than 70 countries, DuPont offers a wide range of innovative products and services in markets including agriculture, nutrition, electronics, communications, safety and protection, transportation and apparel. (See related article on page 2, Director's message).



Pioneer Today: More than 135 full-time employees in Tipton County

Quality Assurance Facility—Performs various tests including germination and purity testing.

Agronomy Research Group—Focuses on the agronomic needs and issues of customers.

Sales Support Office—Supports the largest seed sales organization in the U.S. and Canada. Including sales accounting, trade show support for Pioneer and DuPont Crop Protection, Country Store, field signs and specialty signing, business meeting and event support and weigh wagon programs.

Windfall Research Station—Conducts research to develop new corn hybrids and wheat varieties.

Seed Conditioning Plant—Pioneer's only facility that conditions corn, soybeans and wheat. Contracts acreage with area farmers to produce soybean and wheat seed.

VECTREN WARNS CUSTOMERS OF HIGHER WINTER BILLS

Following weeks of warnings and budget bill promotions, VECTREN Corporation informed its VECTREN Energy Delivery of Indiana North customers that, due to higher natural gas commodity costs, bills will be up 28-38% based on normal temperatures.

Natural gas is a commodity bought and sold in a national deregulated market. VECTREN Energy Delivery purchases natural gas on behalf of its customers and then passes those costs on to customers through the gas cost adjustment. VECTREN Energy Delivery is not allowed to profit from the purchase and sale of natural gas. Only gas costs approved by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission can be recovered from customers on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Bill projections may vary by utility due to a number of factors such as storage capacity, purchasing strategy and pipeline access.

“Prices are higher and unfortunately many customers will struggle to pay this winter,” said VECTREN Chairman, President and CEO Niel C. Ellerbrook. “Strong demand for natural gas this summer combined with the impact by hurricanes Katrina and Rita has pushed this country to the brink of an energy cost crisis.”

Last year, a typical residential customer would have paid about \$770 for November through March natural gas service based on normal weather. This year that same customer could expect to pay about \$1,020 for the same consumption.

Historically, the price of gas dropped significantly in the summer as the use of gas for heating decreased. This pattern afforded utilities the opportunity to refill their storage fields at lower prices. More recently, however, the summer price has been high because of the additional demand for natural gas in the summer as many electric utilities now use gas to produce electricity. This fact combined with the recent hurricanes has sent prices to all-time records. Recently, the Department of Energy warned consumers that bills could be as much as 70% higher than last year.

VECTREN has in place a number of tools to help customers manage their utility bills. To help customers level their bill amounts, VECTREN offers a bill payment plan called Budget Bill. Under this offering, a customer's estimated costs for a year of gas service are spread out in equal monthly bill amounts for the year. This leveling of monthly bill amounts reduces winter gas bills and increases summer gas bills. At the end of the cycle, amounts are adjusted for actual costs and the customer's credit or amount due rolls into the next 12-month calculation.

Since VECTREN launched a communications blitz on its budget bill program Sept. 1 for all of its customers, more than 25,000 new budget bill customers have enrolled.

“We have worked harder than ever to get the message to customers early, and I believe the Budget Bill plan is the best way for customers to survive what is shaping up to be a very expensive winter,” Ellerbrook said. “I also encourage customers to reduce energy consumption by doing things such as increasing insulation or adding programmable thermostats.”

VECTREN's Universal Service Program (USP) provides a monthly discount to income-eligible customers. Indiana customers who have applied for the state's Energy Assistance Program (EAP) through local Community Action Agencies will automatically be enrolled in the USP and will receive bill reductions in addition to EAP assistance. Monthly bill reductions will range from 15–32% of the total bill (not including EAP benefits), depending on the consumer's income level.

VECTREN will again contribute \$500,000 to the *Share the Warmth* program and make an additional \$200,000 available by matching individual donor contributions during the 2005-2006 heating season. *Share the Warmth* dollars will be used to help fund the USP. Additionally, there are weatherization programs underway to help customers install more efficient appliances.

Home improvement and energy conservation tips are available at www.vectren.com

Tipton County

Third House Session Set

The Tipton County Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Tipton County Economic Development Corporation will host the “Third House Session” on Saturday, February 4th at 9:00 A.M. The event will be held at the C. W. Mount Community Center located at 341 W. Jefferson Street in Tipton.

The session is open to the public who are encouraged to ask questions or express their opinions or concerns regarding current legislative bills in the Indiana General Assembly in 2006.

The “Third House Session” gives citizens an opportunity to visit with legislators and offer comments and input on state wide issues. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

“Holiday Open House Spreads Good Cheer”

More than 100 guests attended the Annual Holiday Open House held at Tipton Hospital’s south entrance on

December 2. This year the holiday celebration was jointly sponsored by the Tipton County EDC, Tipton County Chamber, Tipton Hospital, First Farmers Bank & Trust, First National Bank & Trust, National City Bank, STAR Financial Bank, and Steel Parts Federal Credit Union. Those attending partook of an array of scrumptious hors d’oeuvres prepared by the Hospital’s cafeteria staff in the entrance where a

massive 15-foot decorated Christmas tree was displayed. Delightful carols were performed by Tipton High School’s “Young Originals”. Santa took time from his busy schedule to help distribute door prizes donated by area businesses and individuals.

TCEDC staff and Chamber staff wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to the following businesses for their holiday spirit in donating the door prizes: *ACE Hardware,*

Apple Group, Inc., Cargill Ag Horizons, Edward Jones of Tipton, Jim Dandy Restaurants & Dairy Queen, Jean’s

Special thanks to the following:

**TIPTON HOSPITAL
FIRST FARMERS BANK & TRUST
FIRST NATIONAL BANK & TRUST
NATIONAL CITY BANK
STAR FINANCIAL BANK
STEEL PARTS FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION**

who jointly cosponsored the Holiday Open House along with the Tipton County EDC and Tipton County Chamber

Flowers & Gifts, Jefferson Street Coffee Co., Lifetime Fitness Center of Tipton Hospital, Luttrell Insurance Agency, McCormack Printing Impressions, Inc., Midland-Impact, Package Right Corporation, Pizza King, Pizza Shack, Positive Results Therapies, Smith Family Dentistry, TDS TELECOM, The House of Glass, Inc., Tipton County Public

Library, Wellinger’s Flooring, and Young’s Water Conditioning. Special thanks to those volunteers who contributed their time to help make the evening festive and enjoyable for those who attended.

The Holiday Open House is held each December on the first Thursday and provides an opportunity for many to come together in a festive relaxed atmosphere to network and simply to visit with many in the community.



Tipton County

Economic Development Corporation

Serving Tipton County since 1986

Director's Message.....from the desk of William Keir, CecD – TCEDC Executive Director

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., a DuPont company (since 1999), recently received tax abatement for a new project in Tipton County. The project adds \$1,600,000 in new investment, and 6-8 new jobs. The project will involve the construction of a new 8,400 square foot addition and renovate 7,300 square feet of existing space at the seed testing facility. Scheduled for completion in June 2006, the expansion will better accommodate the growing volume of germination and seed purity tests conducted at the location – tests that are vital to ensuring growers receive the highest-quality seed products. Pioneer was founded in 1926 in Des Moines, Iowa, and started in Tipton County in 1937. They employ over 135 full-time persons here, as well as scores of seasonal and part-time individuals.



This is my first tax abatement project since taking this position in March. It is a good time to review some of the details of the process so it can be better understood. And first let me say, we were in competition with Iowa for the above project. If Patricia Skiles, Seed Testing Manager at the Tipton facility, had not been doing such an outstanding job here, we might not have celebrated this expansion news here in Tipton County.

The tax abatement process involves a series of steps by the company and TCEDC staff before the application goes before the tax abatement review board for determination. The first steps involve my meeting with the prospect or existing business to determine exactly what their “project” is, and does it fit within the County/City development plan. Tax abatement is only available for NEW investment in building construction or renovation, and machinery and equipment. NO existing taxes are abated.

The State makes tax abatement available to all commercial and industrial businesses, through a very specific process. As a part of the local control of that process, the County, City and TCEDC have developed objective evaluation criteria for all projects that assign them a numerical score. The evaluation examines the amount of new investment, new jobs to be created, location, wage levels, and employee benefits. The resultant score determines whether or not the company is eligible for abatement, and if so, how long a term.

Once the evaluation process is complete, the project and the evaluation criteria scores are presented to the TCEDC Executive Committee where it is discussed in detail. If the Executive Committee agrees that the proposed project is in compliance with County/City development plans, they then recommend it to the entire TCEDC Board. The County and the City have requested the TCEDC Board review all projects applying for tax abatement. The proposed project is presented to the Board by the Executive Committee with a recommendation for a specific tax abatement term. If the Board is in agreement, the application for abatement is formally presented to the public (County or City) body's review committee.

The public body (County/City) is the group that enacts “tax abatements”. They each have a review committee that examines each proposed project prior to it actually going to the council. The proposed project is reviewed (again) in detail by this publicly appointed committee, and I am in attendance to represent the TCEDC. If the review committee also believes the project meets County/City development plans and objectives, they will then recommend it on to the public process.

At the first meeting before the council (County or City) the project is examined, a public hearing set, and a preliminary resolution passed. The public hearing is for the establishment of an Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) at the location of the project. This very specific designation is what allows a tax abatement to occur under Indiana law. An ERA is defined in the State Code as “...an area...which has become undesirable for, or impossible of, normal development...because of lack of development, cessation of growth, deterioration...obsolescence...” You can see that this description covers just about any condition you can think of to build, renovate, or add or replace machinery and equipment.

The public hearing takes place and all comments noted. The council may then pass a confirming resolution at that time, or at another meeting, if they decide to approve the establishment of the ERA. The ERA is for a period of one to two years, just enough time to complete the project. Once the council passes the confirming resolution, the project can occur with tax abatement. (cont. on page 5)

Building a better community ~ Advocates for business ~ Working together for you and your business

MISSION STATEMENT

The TCEDC was organized for the purpose of promoting economic development, to increase the number of available employment opportunities, to enhance the strength of the business sector, and to create economic stability in Tipton County.

Please address correspondence to:

**Tipton County Economic
Development Corporation**

136 E. Jefferson Street
Tipton, IN 46072
or E-mail degillam@tds.net

Internet Connection

www.tiptonedc.com

2005-2006 TCEDC OFFICERS

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John Graham, Second Vice Chairman
David Reep, Secretary
Ron Warren, Jr., Assistant Secretary
Patrick N. Logan, Treasurer

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Administrative Assistant

Directors Message (cont. from page 4)...

Most tax abatements in Tipton County/City are for three or six years. All abatements start with 100% of the taxes abated in the first year. The percentage of taxes abated then declines to zero over the term of the abatement. As an example, on a three-year abatement the percentage of new taxes abated is 100% in year one, 66% in year two, 33% in year three, and zero in year four and thereafter.

The company must file annually for the term of the abatement in order to maintain their abatement. In addition, the council annually reviews all abatements to determine if they are in compliance with their application. Council may cancel an abatement for cause.

We continue to count on tax abatement as an important tool in securing new investment and job creation in Tipton County.

CONTRIBUTIONS ACCEPTED AND GREATLY APPRECIATED...

For more than 19 years, TCEDC efforts have succeeded in creating economic wealth and opportunity for Tipton County residents. Our efforts focus upon job creation by attracting new and expanding companies and by supporting the expansion efforts of existing companies. Other programs work to solve infrastructure problems and/or create more attractive communities in Tipton County. Our programs and efforts have resulted in numerous companies expanding or relocating their operations to our area.

The TCEDC Board of Directors is comprised of 26 directors who represent a broad-cross section of Tipton County business and government and 4 directors emeritus. All are residents of Tipton County. These individuals are volunteers who dedicate their time and efforts to our purposes. TCEDC operates an office staffed by an economic development professional and an administrative assistant, both full-time employees. Incorporated on April 29, 1986, TCEDC is a private Not-For-Profit Corporation (501(c)(6)) formed under the Not-For-Profit Corporation Act of 1971.

Your dollars and support are vital to our accomplishments and will assist us as we continue with the important work at hand— *stimulating growth in our own back yard!* The Tipton County Economic Development Corporation accepts contributions at all times during the year. *Contributions can be sent to: Tipton County Economic Development Corporation (TCEDC) at 136 E. Jefferson St., Tipton, IN 46072.*

The TCEDC board of directors meets monthly. These meetings are open to the public and visitors are welcome to attend.

For additional information on TCEDC contact us at (800) 461-4907 or (765) 675-7417 or visit our website at www.tiptonedc.com.

2005 TCEDC Contributors Recognized

THANKS A MILLION

The board and staff of the Tipton County Economic Development Corporation extend our sincerest appreciation to those whose financial contributions made our progress possible during the year.

The TCEDC is funded primarily by local government contracts and private donations working together in a necessary partnership. Without this partnership and financial support, we could not accomplish our goals and mission. This partnership represents a shared vision of a better more prosperous Tipton County. We are grateful for their friendship and their support. On behalf of the TCEDC, we extend our sincerest appreciation to the following businesses and individuals:

AcraLine Products, Inc.
Ashley Construction
Baker & Daniels, LLP
Baumgartner Asphalt Co.
Brumbaugh Greenhouse
Cargill Ag Horizons
CINERGY / PSI Energy
Clay County Rural
Telephone Cooperative
DC Coaters, Inc.
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Luttrell Insurance Agency
Maxey Home Construction, Inc.
McCormack's Printing Impressions
Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy
Midland-Impact, LLP
Midwest Sheets, LLC
National City Bank
Package Right Corporation
Pierce-Hardy Limited Partnership
(84 Lumber / 84 Components Co)

Pioneer – A DuPont Company
Pizza King / Cardini's Inc.
Pizza Shack by the Track
Ramsay Business Solutions
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Mr. & Mrs. Donald F. See
Dr. Michael T. Smith, DDS
Mr. Steven Smith – MJ Insurance

Contracts for Services in 2005:

Tipton County
City of Tipton
Tipton Hospital



Workforce Investment Strategies Featured in National Publication

IEDC Announces New Regional Director

Peru, IN – October 20, 2005 The National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE) has recently released “Under One Roof: New Governance Structures for Local Economic and Workforce Development”. The publication features a local organization Workforce Development Strategies, Inc. (WDSI) A research team from NCEE studied five diverse regional economies across the United States including North Central Indiana, Stanislaus CA, Montgomery County MD, Denver CO, and New York City, NY. According the NCEE, the sites were selected because they “represent a few of the pioneers...providing important insights and lessons about how others have proceeded.” The report sought to fill gaps in knowledge about aligning economic development and workforce development organizations, missions, resources and activities.

WDSI formally serves as the umbrella association of the six counties’ local economic development organizations encompassing Cass, Howard, Fulton, Miami Tipton and Wabash County. The publication’s section highlighting North Central Indiana traces the 20 year history and evolution of cooperation experienced by the region’s economic development representatives to the current Economic Development Committee. It addresses the role played by WDSI in providing continuity and historical perspective to sustain the effort over time through community changes in elected officials and economic development staff. The study also discusses the impetus for regional development provided by the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy plan authored by WDSI and the Economic Development Committee. More information about the national publication as well as other available data, training and presentations based on local research, pertinent to the North Central Indiana economic and workforce development may be obtained by contacting WDSI office at 765/689/9950 or accessing their website at www.wdsi.org

In October, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) announced that Charlie Sparks had been appointed as the Central Region Director for the IEDC.

Prior to joining IEDC, Charlie served as the state’s lead economic development official for Region 4 (six counties including Tipton) in North Central Indiana. He also served as manager of the Kokomo/Howard County Development Corp., the Warsaw/Kosciusko County Chamber and the Greater LaPorte Chamber. He has been involved with Indiana’s economic development for over 20 years, and earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Economics from the University of Indianapolis.

Charlie is eager to assist companies and communities in the central region with their business development goals and leading the central region business development team.

NEW 2006 INDIANA STATE TRAVEL & FESTIVAL GUIDES NOW AVAILABLE

The 2006 Indiana State Travel and Festival Guides just arrived at the Tipton County Chamber office and are now available to those interested. The Chamber office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Stop by and pick up your copies today. Quantities are limited.



ILLITERACY

What's the problem? In Tipton County an estimated 1,476 (12%) function at a Level 1 literacy rate. Another 3,567 function at Level 2.

Level 1 consists of people who can read a little, but not well enough to read a food label, read a story to a child, or fill out an application. Level 2 adults can perform more complex tasks such as comparing, contrasting, or integrating pieces of information, but usually do not read at a higher level or problem solve well.

These are your friends and neighbors. This population keeps a very low profile because of all the shame and humiliation associated with not being able to read.

Experts believe that adults functioning at levels 1 or 2 lack the sufficient foundation of basic skills to function successfully in our society. Job opportunities for adults with low-level literacy skills in Tipton and surrounding counties are rapidly diminishing. Illiteracy has a "ripple effect" that touches others in the community. Adults who cannot read prescription dosages, notes from a teacher, or warning signs at work create additional community problems and demands for services.

Many of those who suffer from low-level skills have had such negative experiences in traditional school settings that they are very reluctant to reenter "classroom" situations. They do much better in one-to-one situations with a trained tutor in a quiet setting. Low-level learners are often at the bottom of the economic ladder. They need a program that works, has little or no cost, and has the flexibility to meet their scheduling requirements.

The Literacy Coalition is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation offering free services to residents in Tipton County. Using volunteer tutors to provide one to one instruction the Literacy Coalition often succeeds where traditional classroom instruction fails. Our goal is to help our adult learners become better workers, parents and citizens, as they strive to attain their goals. We teach basic

reading/writing skills, English as a second language, and help adults prepare to take their GED exam.

If you have employees whom you believe might need our services, or if your business understands the value of helping raise the literacy level in Tipton County please call Mary Hines (765) 675-2045 and discuss ways to partner with us.

Events at the Boys & Girls Club of Tipton County

The Boys & Girls Club basketball and cheerleading programs are underway with over 150 youth participating. To help raise money for these programs and the general operations of the Club, the Club will have two Chili Dinners before the Tipton and Tri-Central Varsity Basketball games. The cost is \$5.00 per ticket and can be used at one of the locations: Tipton High School Cafeteria on January 20th or Tri-Central High School Cafeteria on February 17th. Both dinners will be held from 5:00—7:00 p.m.

The Club would also like to thank the Findling Trust administered by the Tipton County Foundation, Inc. for their generous grant to help underprivileged youth that cannot afford the membership fee to the Club. If you know of a child or a family that could utilize this benefit, please contact the Club.

As the New Year approaches, the Club will finalize its strategic plan for the coming years. A few of the new programs include volleyball and the possibility of before school programs to help accommodate parents that have to work early in the morning.

The Club is a positive place that serves over 600 youth during the year. Its core programs are: Character and Leadership Development, Education & Career Development, Health & Life Skills, the Arts, Sports, Fitness and Recreation. For more information on the Club, call (765) 675-9362.

Beyond the Basics: Techniques for Serious eBay Sellers!

The North Central Indiana Small Business Development Center is offering this unique opportunity on Thursday, January 26 from 10 am to 3 pm.

This 5-hour seminar will be held at the SDBC office at Inventrek Technology Park at 700 E. Firmin St, Kokomo.

An Education Specialist Trained by eBay will teach you how to:

- Start and/or Grow an eBay-based Business
- Choose the Right Listing Format
- Create Compelling Listings
- Use eBay Listing Tools
- Market Your eBay Business
- Manage Your Listings
- Pack and Ship Inventory
- Use Online Payments from PayPal

A strong basic knowledge of eBay with at least twenty transactions and a minimum of one item sold on eBay are the prerequisites for this course.

The \$85 cost includes lunch and a book. Pre-registration and payment is required by January 24. For questions or registration information, contact the North Central Indiana Small Business Development Center at (765) 454-7922 or via email at sdripps@isbdc.org.

The Small Business Development Center is here to provide consulting, seminars, conferences, workshops and access to information to help you set up or expand your business.

New Winter Hours...

JEFFERSON STREET COFFEE COMPANY

425 E. Jefferson Street, Tipton

You can even call ahead so the drink order is ready when you arrive. Call (765) 675-9440.

M-T	6:30AM to 2:30PM
W-F	6:30AM to 8 PM
Sat	6:30AM to 2:30PM
Sun	8AM to 12 Noon

COMING EVENTS

For a complete list of community events, visit the Chamber's web site at www.tiptonchamber.com

JANUARY

5—Pre-Business Workshop presented by SBDC, 11 AM to 1 PM at Education Center, 239 Ash St., Tipton (Registration fee \$30) Call (765) 454-7922 to register.

11—Tipton County Chamber meeting, 11:45 AM at Pizza King

12—Tipton County EDC Board Meeting, 7 PM at Tipton County Library

14—Tipton County Chamber Meeting, 11:45 AM at Pizza King

FEBRUARY

4—Third House Session, 9:00 AM at C. W. Mount Community Center

8—Tipton County Chamber meeting, 11:45 AM at Pizza King

9—Tipton County EDC Board Meeting, 7 PM at Tipton County Library

10-11-12—"I Take This Man" - comedy presented by Tipton Community Theatre, C.W. Mount Community Center (additional info on page 10)

14—Valentine's Day

24—Lions Club Fish Fry

MARCH

8—Tipton County Chamber meeting, 11:45 AM at Pizza King

9—Tipton County EDC Board Meeting, 7 PM at Tipton County Library

11—Irish Music Program at Tipton County Library

17—St. Patrick's Day

18—Senior Center Rummage Sale

25—Mustard Seed Dinner & Dance

Tipton County News & Views is published quarterly by the Tipton County Chamber and the Tipton County EDC.

TCT Presents

"I Take This Man"

Get ready to laugh and chase away the winter blahs as Tipton Community Theatre's presents Jack Sharkey's screwball farce *I Take This Man*.

In this rollicking, lightning-paced comedy, young Gideon ("Giddy") Hollis is convinced that nice guys do finish last when she finds an unconscious man, clad in tank top and shorts, at the Boston Marathon finish line, just as the last of the runners have completed the race. Reasoning that this man is Mr. Right, she totes him home with the help of an over-solicitous police officer. A nervous roommate and her possessive fiancé are the other ingredients in this deliciously funny concoction.

Tamara Ritter plays the lovely, if not ditzy, lovelorn Gideon Hollis. Tamara most recently was enjoyed as Potipher's wife in TCT's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Tamara's range of talent is shown with other TCT credits, which include Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible* and neurotic Clelia Waldgrave in *The Nerd*. Roger Burns-Watson makes his TCT debut as Bret Fleming as the handsome would-be Marathon runner/Mr. Right. New to Tipton as West Street Christian Church's Co-Pastor, but no stranger to the stage, Roger has been involved in theater for over 25 years both as actor and director. His most recent roles include the Carpenter in *Rashomon* and Don Diego in *The Trickster of Seville*.

Tracy Huff returns as Charlene Lockwood, Giddy's supportive and wiser roommate. Tracy, a versatile TCT veteran, has appeared in many TCT productions including *Joseph*, *The Crucible*, and *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and will be remembered as Tansy in *The Nerd*. Brett Stoker, another *Nerd* alumni, plays Dex Clayton, Charlene's dashing if not arrogant fiancé. Along with displaying his acting talents in *The Nerd* and *ART*, Brett directed the powerful *The Crucible* this past season. Completing the cast as Jud, the helpful, but not exactly the brightest policeman on the block, is Larry Nierzwick. TCT audiences will long remember Larry's hilarious portrayal of the Nerd, not to mention Captain Hook and Mr. Frank among other great roles.

Co-directors Rod "Top" Fletcher and Margy Lancet-Fletcher are excited about bringing this laugh-out-loud comedy to Tipton. A funny script and the chemistry of a great cast of comedic actors are a sure hit in the small stage setting of the Mount Center.

Production dates for *I Take This Man* are February 10, 11 and 12. Friday and Saturday performances will be at 7:30 p.m., and a Sunday matinee will be presented at 2 p.m. All shows will be held at the **C. W. Mount Community Center**. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (Age 55+), \$8 for students (Age 13-college)



and \$5 for children (Age 2 –12). Advance tickets are on sale at the Tipton County Chamber of Commerce, 136 East Jefferson St., Tipton during regular business hours. Advance sale tickets are offered at a \$1.00 discount per ticket.

Tipton Community Theatre can be reached through its voice mail at 675-1682 or by visiting their website at www.tiptontheatre.com for more information.

TIPTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

136 E. Jefferson Street
Tipton, Indiana 46072
(765) 675-7533 Fax (765) 675-8917

OUR MISSION

The Chamber's mission is to serve its members, promote an environment where business can grow and prosper, attract visitors and new residents to the community, therefore enhancing the quality of life of Tipton County.

CHAMBER OFFICERS

Ron Sottong, President

Ron Van Sickle, Vice President
EES Home Designs

Nancy Holderman, Secretary / Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Suzanne Alexander – Tipton County Auditor
John Colter – First National Bank & Trust
Dennis Cook – DC Coaters, Inc.
Brett Curnutt – Dan Young, LLC
Jason Hare – Edward Jones Investments
Dennis Lange – Pioneer
Marcy Luttrell – Luttrell Insurance Agency
Ray Noble - Ray Bros. & Noble Canning Co.
PJ Ryan – REMAX All-Stars
Steve Peters – Ramsay Business Solutions
Bill Salsbery – Heartland Ministries
Tony Shirley – Shirley Computer/Radio Shack
Beth Tilley – First Farmers Bank & Trust
Vern Schmaltz – Tipton County Memorial Hospital
Debbie Wellinger – Wellinger's Flooring

STAFF

Diane Timm, Executive Director
ditimm@tds.net

Internet connection:
www.tiptonchamber.com

2005 Membership Directory

The following businesses and individuals have made an important investment in their business through membership in the Chamber of Commerce during 2005. Membership dues assist the Chamber with special programs implemented to improve the business climate for our members, improve the quality of life for all residents and to manage future growth for a well-planned community. The Chamber serves as a liaison for the business community, providing information and participating in the advancement of countywide civic, commercial, industrial and agricultural interests. The Chamber encourages all members to do business with each other. We hope you will consider the following for your professional and personal needs. For membership information, visit our website at www.tiptonchamber.com.

Abstracters - Moore Title & Escrow Co., Title Guaranty & Abstract Co., Inc., **Accountants & CPAs** - Opal A. Graham and P.A., Patrick N. Logan, CPA, of Logan and Graham; Marlene Van Sickle, McNeal & Co., CPA, Max McNeal, McNeal & Co., CPA, PC; **Apartments/Mobile Home Parks** - Tipton Terrace Apartments; **Architects & Building Services** - EES Home Design; **Associations** - American Red Cross Tipton & Howard Chapter; C.W. Mount Community Center; Indiana Regional Blood Center; Kelley Historical Agricultural Museum; Tipton County Economic Development Corp.; Tipton County Foundation; Tipton County Historical Society & Tipton County Heritage Center; Welcome Wagon; **Attorneys / Judges** - Judge Thomas R. Lett – Tipton County Circuit Court; Ben B. Hobbs – Attorney at Law; Jay Rich – Attorney at Law & Co. Prosecutor; David B. Quigley of Quigley & Quigley; Matthew Quigley of Quigley & Quigley; **Automobile Dealers/Service Stations/Parts Sales & Service** - Bob-A-Lu's Marathon & Bob's Standard Station; Dan Young Tipton, LLC; NAPA Auto Parts/Tipton Automotive Supply; Tipton Ford Mercury, Inc.; **Banks / Credit Unions / Mortgage Company / Financial Institutions** - First Farmers Bank & Trust; First National Bank & Trust; Lundin & Associates, Inc. – Kokomo & Noblesville; National City Bank of Indiana; Star Financial Bank; Steel Parts Federal Credit Union; **Building & Home / Contractors / Concrete / Asphalt / Heating & Cooling** - Ashley Construction; Baumgartner & Co. Asphalt Services; B. R. Schroeder & Sons, Inc.; Gaiser Heating & Cooling, Inc.; Heat Pro Heating & Cooling, LLC; Irving Materials, Inc.; Maxey Home Construction; McMahan Custom Homes, Inc.; Pottenger Electric Co.; Smith Building, Inc.; TenBrook Sales Heating & Cooling; Tragesser Concrete Forms, Inc; **Carpet Cleaners** - Shirley's Chem-Dry; **Child Care** - ABC & Me Child Care at Emanuel; **Churches & Monasteries**

- Cicero Seventh Day Adventist Church and The Tipton Living Center; Heartland Ministries; Rock Prairie Baptist Church; St. Joseph Center; St. John the Baptist Catholic Church; **Dentists** - Smith Family Dentistry, Dr. Mike Smith; **Doctors/Physician** - Dr. Dianna Andrews, Family Practice Dr. Kolleen Burnett; Dr. Vincent Delumpa, Northern Surgical Consultants; Dr. Destry Lambert. Family Doctor; Dr. Jerry Powell, Tipton Family Practice; **Engineers / Land Surveyors** - The Henderson Group; Wyatt Johnson, P.E., L.S.; and Jon Pyke ; **Eye Doctors / Optometrists** - Dr. Jeffrey L. Tweedy, OD; Tipton Eye Care Associates; **Florists** - Jean's Flowers & Gifts; **Funeral Directors** - Young Nichols Funeral Home, Inc.; **Furniture / Wicker Furniture** - Schoolhouse of Educated Wicker; **Grocery Store / Meat Market / Pharmacy** - Marsh Supermarkets, LLC; White's Meat Market; The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy; **Government Offices** - Listing at end of article ; **Hardware Stores** - Tipton ACE Hardware; **Individuals** - Jim Hartsough; Oak Grove Farms; Jo Ann Hobbs; Jack Miller, Golf Pro; Elizabeth Schram; P.J. Ryan; **Insurance** - Everett Hughes Insurance, Inc.; Farm Bureau Insurance of Tipton County; Farmers Mutual Insurance Co.; Holland Insurance Services; Luttrell Insurance Agency; KCIS, INC., Country Corner Insurance; **Investors** - Edward Jones Investments; **Industrial / Agricultural Related** - Campbell Seed Inc.; Cargill AgHorizons; MIDLAND / IMPACT CO-OP; Pioneer, A Dupont Co.; Ray Bros. & Noble Canning Co.; Schoettmer Prime Pork Farm Inc.; **Industrial** - 84 Components; Acra-Line Products, Inc.; DC Coaters, Inc.; High Performance Alloys; Lex Tooling, LLC; Midwest Sheets; Package Right Corporation; Roberts & Dybdahl, Inc.; Tipton Electric Motor Services; Wabash Alloys, LLC; **Landscaping/Lawn Care** - Lee Landscaping; List Lawn Care Service; **Library** - Tipton County Public Library; **Medical Facilities** - Bona Vista Programs Inc.

& Positive Results; Miller's Merry Manor; Tipton At Home; Tipton Hospital; Autumnwood Extended Care Facility; Autumnwood Village Assisted Living; **Medical / Rehabilitation / Developmental** - Janus Developmental Services, Inc.; **Newspapers / Radio / Television** - Hometown Television; Kokomo Tribune – cnhimedia; Tipton County Tribune – Elwood Publishing Co.; WIOU-1350 AM & WZWZ 92.5 FM; **Office Products / Computers / Computer Programs / Electronics / Satellite Sales / Website Design** - BrindleBox Design; Imagistics; Miller & Miller Information Management Systems; Ramsay Business Solutions; Shirley Computers/Radio Shack; **Personnel Services** - Manpower; Workforce Development Strategies, Inc.-Peru; **Photographers** - B.A. Hirtzel – Free Lance; Photography By Beck, Inc.; Photography By Gregory; **Publications / Printers / Specialty Items** - Apple Group, Inc.; McCormack Printing Impressions, Inc.; The Sign Shop; Walnut Creek Publishing Inc.; Yellow Book USA; **Realtors** - Coldwell Banker Havens Realty Company; Coverdale Realty; Heron Real Estate; RACI-Realtors Association of Central Indiana; RE/MAX All Stars; The Wyman Group; Tipton Realty & Speer Appraising Services, LLC; **Recycling / Waste Removal** - Wabash Valley Refuse Removal; **Restaurants** - Dairy Queen Restaurant; Jim Dandy Restaurant; Pizza King-Cardini's, Inc.; Pizza Shack; **Retail Stores** - Gifts Plus/Clemons Variety; Moser Jewelers, Inc. ; The House of Glass, Inc.; Wellinger's Flooring; **Schools / Colleges/ Education Centers** - Education Center of Tipton County; Ivy Tech State College, Kokomo; Northern Community Corporation & Schools; St.

John's the Baptist Parochial School; Tipton Community School Corporation & Schools; **Telephone Companies / Satellite Sales & Service & Internet Service** - TDS TELECOM; **At Home & Internet Services** - **Utility Services** - Tipton Municipal Utilities; Vectren Services; **Water Conditioning & Appliances** - Young's Water Conditioning; **CITY OFFICES** - Tipton Mayor's Office; Tipton Clerk-Treasurer; Tipton Court; Tipton Garage; Tipton Light Dept.; Tipton Police Dept.; Tipton Street Dept.; Tipton Park & Pool; Tipton Waste Water Plant; Tipton Water Dept.; **COUNTY OFFICES** - Cicero Twp. Assessor; County Assessor; County Auditor; County Commissioners; County Jail; County Health Dept.; County Plan Commission; County Landfill; County Recorder; County Probation; County Sheriff Dept; County Road Supt.; County Treasurer; County Surveyor; Circuit Court; County Veteran Service; County Coroner



Tipton County

NEWS & VIEWS



Tipton County Chamber of Commerce
 Tipton County Economic Development Corporation
 136 E. Jefferson Street
 Tipton, IN 46072-1908