



FALLS CITY
NEBRASKA

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Falls City EDGE : ANNUAL REPORT

ACHIEVEMENTS - ACCOMPLISHMENTS - ACTIVITIES



Peru State College conducted listening sessions across the region for Nebraska FWD (Future Workforce Development). Falls City EDGE hosted community leaders at the Falter Museum for the input session to align workforce needs with strategic programs that benefit rural Nebraska. #fallscityproud #perustatecollege

October 5, 2018 was national Manufacturing Day and Falls City EDGE hosted middle school students from Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer (HTRS), Sacred Heart and Falls City Middle School on industry tours at Kearney Welding, Merz Farm Equipment, Consolidated Grain and Barge, Falls City Foods, Vantec, Inc. and Airlanco. EDGE and our industries are working hard to inspire the next generation of manufacturers.

Falls City EDGE representatives Bart Keller, Rod Rowland, Amber Holle and Beckie Cromer met with The Ames Companies Corporate officials to see the advances being made at the Falls City Plant. They have made a significant financial investment in their operations by installing robotics equipment as well as a high-tech induction heating system. Special thanks to John Martin and his team for taking the time to showcase The Ames Companies facility.

Beckie Cromer, Gary Jorn (City Administrator) and Rod Rowland (F&M Bank) traveled to Webster City, IA to meet with Willie and Bev Van Wyhe and Sherri Hotzler of Vantec, Inc. The team met with these Corporate Executives to express Falls City's appreciation for their continued investment in the Nebraska economy. Falls City EDGE is thankful to have Vantec, Inc in Richardson County!

Teachers from Falls City High School, HTRS and Sacred Heart joined forces with our local industries for an interactive professional development experience. This Teacher Industry Externship program will help educators provide students with unique guidance about local manufacturing careers. There were 19 educators and 5 industries (Vantec, Inc., FAST Global Solutions, Kearney Welding, Falls City Foods and Airlanco) taking part in the experience!



The 2018 Tiger and Irish graduates submitted videos outlining why they are Falls City Proud in EDGE's first scholarship opportunity! Congratulations to Joe Bieker for winning the \$500 Falls City EDGE Scholarship.

Falls City EDGE is working to leverage the railroad assets in our county by creating a marketable megasite. We have been working with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) on their process to become a certified UPRR site by securing the necessary land option(s) along with a 10% engineering rail design being completed by Via Rail Engineering. This site is nearly 900 acres and will allow us to add to our inventory of sites/buildings listings once we gain final railroad approval.

In 2018, Falls City Foods celebrated 1 year in business in Falls City and they have exciting plans for an expanded footprint. Stay tuned as the company plans to invest, once again, in Falls City! In May, EDGE representatives traveled to the Corporate Headquarters as a part of our Business Retention and Expansion efforts and to thank them for doing business in Falls City.

The Grand Weaver Hotel continued to invest in downtown Falls City by unveiling 3rd floor renovations of 5 gorgeous new apartments and 5 spacious hotel rooms for our residents and guests! It's a great opportunity to live in downtown Falls City in a luxury apartment providing tenants maintenance free living at its finest. In addition, we offer three cheers to Mitch Glaeser and his team at The Den which is another fabulous addition to the Grand Weaver Hotel where people can join together to Relax – Refresh – Reminisce.

Strategy - Success - Synergy



Nebraska – 2018 Champions for the 2nd year in a row in the annual *Site Selection* magazine’s Governor’s Cup Race in the economic development projects per capita category.

EDGE participated in two recruitment events including the Institute of Food Technologies trade show in cooperation with Site Selection Partnership in July and the Community Venture Network in August where representatives met with businesses looking to expand to the Midwest region. EDGE also attended a networking event with prospective companies.

Southeast Community College, assisted by Falls City EDGE, received a United States Department of Agriculture Telemedicine grant which will bolster distance learning at the local learning center.

EDGE representatives attended the Midwest U.S. – Japan Association conference in Omaha where Governors to top executives at leading companies in both America and Japan were in attendance. It was a unique venue for bringing together political and business leaders to foster international business relations.

AHRS was named the lead contractor on the multi-million dollar, 10,000 square foot Southeast Community College Learning Center. The dirt began to move in October and the project is well underway with plans for completion in late 2019. It will be a first class facility focused on healthcare, manufacturing and distance learning that will serve the skilled training needs of the tri-state region.

Falls City EDGE assisted Bruxellas – Herrick Properties with a Tax Increment Financing rehabilitation grant in the downtown redevelopment area to assist in reconstructing the building/area damaged by the fire. Look for exciting development changes in the 1500 block of Stone St.

