

ON HAND DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

OHDC  
REVOLVING  
LOAN  
FUND

- Twelve loans to businesses in the Miller area.
- Loans total over \$257,000.
- Average loan is for \$21,417.
- Call to ask about the RLF.

**INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:**

Listen to the Mavericks 2

Tax Credit 2

SDOP 2

Clipper Windpower 3

Dakota Roots 3

What's Happening 3

Website 4

# On (the other) Hand

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 25, 2007

## New ALCO Store in Miller

On Hand Development (OHDC) is excited to announce that Duckwall-ALCO Stores, Inc., has decided to build a new ALCO store in Miller.

The new store will be located in the industrial park just east of the Dairy Queen. The building will be 25,000 square feet in size which is about two and a half times the size of the existing Duckwall store. Total employees at the new facility will be 25, an increase of 17 from the eight employees that work at Duckwall.

Construction has already started and the plan is to have the new store open in the early part of 2008. Paces Lodging of Fargo, ND, is building the new structure. Steve Iverson, project man-



**Groundbreaking at the ALCO site**

ager for Paces Lodging was in town for the groundbreaking ceremony on October 9th.

OHDC worked for several months with ALCO and Paces Lodging to make this new store a reality. This included helping ALCO find the best site for their store and working with neighboring businesses and the City of Miller to iron out all of

the details.

The existing Duckwall store will remain open until the ALCO building is completed. The existing employees will transfer to the new facility at that time.

OHDC owns the current Duckwall and will be investigating other options to fill that building in the near future.

## First Issue of Newsletter

Welcome to the first issue of On (the other) Hand, our quarterly newsletter. Open communication with the people that we serve is a priority for our office. This newsletter is a key tool in realizing that goal.

The content of the newsletter will focus on updating readers on

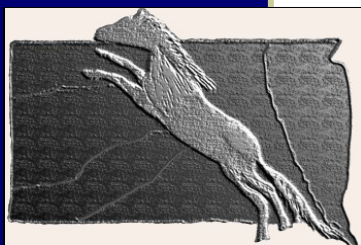
the activities of this office, announcing new projects, providing business information and tips to assist business owners, and listing upcoming events.

This publication is free to anyone that would like to receive it. Just contact our office at 853-3098 and we will add you to our mail-

ing list. We prefer to deliver it via email to reduce the cost of postage.

If you have ideas for articles please share them with us. Issues will be published in January, April, July, and October.

## Director's Desk—Listen to the Mavericks



**LISTEN** to the *Mavericks*

A celebration of cultural entrepreneurship in South Dakota

*Did you know that if you've hired a new employee this year you may qualify for a tax credit up to \$2,400?*

SDOP is currently in negotiations with the contractors that will be building the facility.



On September 7, I had the privilege of attending the Listen to the Mavericks celebration in Chamberlain. What a great way to spend a day!

Seven of South Dakota's top fledgling entrepreneurs were presented with awards. They were given a chance to speak about their experiences. Two panel discussions followed that focused on identifying and encouraging entrepreneurs in our hometowns.

Lots of excellent business advice and ideas were expressed

during these discussions.

On the drive home, I asked myself, "What are we doing in the Miller area to encourage entrepreneurship?" I couldn't come up with very many good answers.

As a community, this may be an area that we should focus on. Do people inside and outside of our area perceive this as a good place to start a business? Do our children know that they can succeed in business in Hand County if they choose to pursue a busi-

ness career? What can we do to positively impact our business community?

I believe that the Miller area is a great place to own a business and the future of our community looks bright.

Next year, I'm hoping that we have several carloads of residents from around Miller that attend the Listen to the Mavericks celebration. It would be even better if one of them was being honored as a maverick and received an award.

## Work Opportunity Tax Credit

Did you know that if you've hired a new employee this year you may qualify for a tax credit up to \$2,400?

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit exists to promote the hiring of individuals in rural renewal counties. These are counties that lost population during the 1990's. Hand County has been designated as one of these counties in SD.

The law is effective as of May 25, 2007. The new employee must be 18 but not yet 40 on the date of hire. It applies to new hires that are not previous employees and are not dependents or related parties of the employer. If the employee works at least 400 hours for you, the tax credit is 40% of the first \$6,000 wages paid in the first year. If the

employee works less than 400 hours but more than 120 hours, the tax credit is 25% of the first \$6,000 of paid wages.

An important point is that the employer only has 28 days after the date of hire to submit a certification request to the state employment security agency.

Contact your tax professional for more details.

## SDOP Continues to Move Forward

South Dakota Oilseed Processors continues to move forward with their soybean crushing facility.

Mike Trosen, CEO, stated that they have raised over \$8 million and they have received a tax-exempt bond

through the S.D. Department of Agriculture for another \$10 million.

SDOP is currently in negotiations with the contractors that will be building the facility.

Trosen explained that everything is looking good on their proposed site six miles east of Miller. Soil borings were taken

and came back positive. The Phase I environmental assessment is underway and should be completed soon.

The staff and board of On Hand Development is excited to see this project gaining momentum and we look forward to seeing SDOP open their doors sometime next fall.

# Clipper Tackles Transmission



Clipper Windpower held a public meeting in Miller on October 2 to give an update on their project.

Tom Feiler, Clipper Windpower representative, stated that the Rolling Thunder project will be the

## Liberty 2.5 MW Wind Turbine

largest wind farm in the world at 5,000 megawatts of electricity.

Clipper has representatives in Miller working with landowners to secure leases on the land where wind towers will be built.

Feiler explained that three things are needed for a successful wind power project: good wind, a market that will purchase the power, and transmission lines to carry the

electricity to the market. We have good wind and the market is developing, but the bottleneck is the lack of transmission lines. Clipper has committed to building their own transmission lines even though this can be very expensive.

The goal of Clipper is to produce the “lowest cost wind energy anywhere in the country, period.”

On Hand Development believes this project will have a major impact on our economy. If you have questions or need more info, just call the Clipper office at 853-2224.

*Dakota Roots has been up and running for one year and so far, has built a pool of over 1,400 individuals that are considering moving back to S.D.*

## Dakota Roots Brings Back South Dakotans

“Dakota Roots will grow the South Dakota workforce by encouraging those with ties to the state to return - to live, grow, and build.”

That is the opening statement for the Dakota Roots program on their website at [www.dakotaroots.com](http://www.dakotaroots.com).

This joint program connects people interested in returning to S.D. with employers that need qualified employees. All of this is accomplished in a completely confidential fashion.

Dakota Roots has been up and running for one year and so far, has built a pool of over 1,400 individuals that are considering

moving back to S.D. A total of 241 participants have been hired and are re-establishing their Dakota roots.

Business or individuals that are interested in the program can visit the website or call 1-800-592-1882.

## What’s Happening in Miller on KIJV

The KIJV radio station from Huron is sponsoring a “What’s Happening in Miller” segment on Thursdays at 9 AM.

If you or an organization that you belong to has an announcement or event that you want covered on the radio, please send the details to Joe Fiala at the On Hand Development office. You can call at 853-3098 or

send an email to [joe@millersd.org](mailto:joe@millersd.org).

Occasionally we will have a guest join us on the radio segment to highlight a particular project or event.

This is a great way to promote events and to promote the Miller area to a wider audience in eastern S.D. Turn your dials to 1340 AM on Thursdays at 9 AM!





## On Hand Development Corporation

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### Board of Directors

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Kevin Watts

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Lisa Hylla

### Mission

The mission of On Hand Development Corporation is to support the growth of new businesses and assist the expansion of existing businesses while striving to improve the economy of the Miller area.

# New Website Up and Running

On Hand Development, the Miller Civic & Commerce, and the City of Miller have formed a partnership to launch their website at [www.millersd.org](http://www.millersd.org).

A website is critical for a community to thrive in today's technology driven society. Our new website will feature information from each organization involved in the partnership.

The OHDC portion of the website will include a profile of Hand County, announcements of business opportunities, electronic versions of our quarterly newsletter, and other information that a prospective or existing business may find useful.

Stop by the website and let us know what you think of it. We would appreciate any comments or suggestions.



Here is our brick-and-mortar location. Stop by and see our website at [www.millersd.org](http://www.millersd.org).