

ESN to Kick-Off National Entrepreneurship Week, February 18-25

Galesburg, IL (February 1, 2012) – The Entrepreneurial Support Network of West Central Illinois (ESN) will announce plans to kick-off and celebrate National Entrepreneurship Week 2012 at a press conference on Tuesday, February 14, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Galesburg Business & Technology Center on the Carl Sandburg College Campus, CME – Building G, 2051 Tom L. Wilson Boulevard, Room G108A. Local activities for National Entrepreneurship Week 2012 will be held February 18-25 to celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit of leaders, organizations, and communities in the West Central Illinois region. Announcements that will be made at the press conference will include:

- Proclamations issued by municipalities to promote this regional initiative.
- Presentation of the State of Entrepreneurialism – Annual Report 2011.
- Business workshops to be held at Carl Sandburg College.
- The Business & Technology Center's Entrepreneurial Scholarship Program.
- Workshops in March offered by the Entrepreneurship Center of West Central Illinois.
- A 4-H SPIN (special interest) club for students in the region interested in entrepreneurship.
- Plans for Small Business Day Awards Luncheon in May of 2012.
- Details of a grant received by the Galesburg Public Library to assist entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurs and small business owners bring new and unique ideas to the marketplace that create jobs and fuel economic growth.

They are the backbone of America, comprising about 99.7 percent of all employers and employing more than half of the private sector. ESN would like to recognize their many accomplishments and, at the same time, encourage our youth to pursue their own entrepreneurial endeavors.

ABOUT ESN: The Entrepreneurial Support Network is a group of service providers, dedicated to the advancement of local entrepreneurs, the promotion of innovation, and the development of an entrepreneurial culture. ESN seeks to build an entrepreneurial culture and support system that educates, engages, and transforms individuals, organizations and communities to higher levels of innovation. ESN providers and sponsors are the City of Galesburg, Galesburg Business Technology Center, Carl Sandburg College, Entrepreneurship Center of West Central Illinois, Henderson County Economic Development Committee, Economic Development Administration, University of Illinois, GREDA, Illinois Small Business Development Center of WIU, and the Workforce Investment Board of Western Illinois.