

## An Update from the Sussex County Advisory Committee

BY CHAD MOORE, SUSSEX ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR

»» The Sussex County Advisory Committee has had four very successful and informative meetings. The topics have included health care in Sussex County, the minimum wage bill, a predictive scheduling initiative, and other bills before the General Assembly. Another hot topic is highway infrastructure, and considering both current and future options to facilitate better traffic follow from western Sussex County to the beach area. Our committee is

made up of eastern and western Sussex County business men and women and we're pleased to have a strong presence by the local chambers of commerce, whose insight is most valuable. We also have small and large businesses represented, which creates great diverse dialogue surrounding the issues at hand.

## An Update from the DSCC Kent Advisory Committee

BY MARK DIMAIO

»» James Waddington, Director of the Kent Economic Partnership (KEP), gave an update on the organi-

zation's restructuring during the committee's last meeting in April. The KEP functions as a 501c3 organization operated out of the Kent County Levy Court building. The organization's staff will now report directly to the KEP board of directors and the expanded board of directors will include members of the Greater Kent Committee. The Kent Economic Partnership objectives are to strengthen the business community and to advance recruitment, expansion and retention of businesses. The KEP director will no longer be a county government position, but one held by the partnership. KEP will use the infrastructure that's already in place, rather than starting new committees, as the most appropriate way to approach economic development and effectively market Kent County's benefits as an easy and friendly place to do business. Gregg Moore of Becker Morgan Group serves as KEP's chairman.

## Who is Greater Kent Committee?

»» The Greater Kent Committee is a group of almost 100 CEOs and business leaders whose mission is to improve the quality of life for the people of Central Delaware. The organization's past success includes the establishment of Kent County Regional Sports Complex (DE Turf), creating the CenDel Foundation and the establishment of the Community Service Building in Dover.

The vision of the DE Turf to serve as an economic driver for Delaware has come to fruition. During the first year, the DE Turf brought over 40,000 visitors during

tournament weekends, booked over 20 events which resulted in a significant increase in total hotel room revenue. Next year, these numbers are expected to increase dramatically. Economic Development continues to be a focus for the Greater Kent Committee as we turn our efforts to the reorganization of the Kent Economic Partnership, KEP.

### Reorganizing the Kent Economic Partnership

The KEP is a 501c3 organization led by Gregg Moore, principal of Becker

Morgan Group and operated out of the Kent County Levy Court building. The first step in reorganizing the KEP was to have the staff report directly to the KEP board of directors and expand the board of directors to include members of the Greater Kent Committee.

In a recent article in the Delaware State News, Mike Petit de Mange of Kent County Levy Court was quoted as saying, "The goal of the partnership is to represent the entire county and all of the communities in the county. Our objective is to strengthen the business