

11<sup>th</sup> Annual **Indiana**  
**ECONOMIC**  
**OUTLOOK**  
Forecasting 2007 and beyond

## The Panel

**John Littler** is President of Littler Diecast Corporation, a medium-sized supplier of aluminum injection molds to a broad spectrum of industries. A founding member of the Ball State University Business Forecasting Roundtable since 1998, he became Chair in 2004.

**Patrick Barkey** is an economist who serves as Director of Economic and Policy Studies at Ball State University's Miller College of Business. A regular newspaper columnist, he has devoted most of his research to the state and regional economy.

**Gary Santoni** retired as George and Frances Ball Professor of Economics at Ball State University in 2004. A keen observer of the current economy, Gary remains active in research and consulting on financial markets and monetary policy.

Tuesday, December 5, 2006 • 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Horizon Convention Center • Muncie, Indiana

## Keeping Afloat in a Tough Industry

With Big Three automakers now sharing only half of their own market, and news of assembly plant closings and employee buyouts dominating the airwaves, things are sure tough in the auto industry. Things are even tougher in the auto parts industry, where a quarter of the workforce—200,000 jobs—has been eliminated since 2000, and blue chip names like Delphi and Dana are in bankruptcy. Yet the announcements of new Honda plants and Toyota expansions remind us that industry developments bring opportunities as well as challenges.

How will those developments affect Indiana and Muncie? Much of the 2007 outlook hinges on that question. So we're delighted to have Cindy Niekamp from BorgWarner join us as Keynote Speaker for this year's Outlook. We look forward to hearing her perspective on how BorgWarner is meeting the challenges ahead, and what the future holds for Muncie's largest manufacturing employer.



## Keynote Speaker

**Cynthia "Cindy" A. Niekamp**

Vice President, BorgWarner Inc.  
President and General Manager,  
BorgWarner TorqTransfer Systems  
BorgWarner Drivetrain Group

Cynthia "Cindy" A. Niekamp was named President and General Manager BorgWarner TorqTransfer Systems, Drivetrain Group, and Vice President of BorgWarner Inc. in July of 2004.

She joined BorgWarner from MeadWestvaco Corporation where she was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. From 1995 to 2002 Niekamp served in a variety of senior roles for the company and its predecessor Mead Corporation. Her responsibilities consisted of strategic planning and general management, including four years as President and General Manager of Mead Specialty Paper Division.

## Register online:

Please visit:

<http://bbr.iweb.bsu.edu/outlook>

## Register by mail:

**\$15 per person (lunch included)**

**RSVP by November 30, 2006**

Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tables for my organization

(Minimum of 8 in party)

Number of Guests \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach list of those attending)

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Organization \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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We are grateful to the Muncie  
 Rotary Club and the Muncie Sunrise  
 Rotary Club for hosting this event.

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 Horizon Convention Center  
 Muncie, Indiana

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**Will the Streak  
 Continue in 2007?**

**G**lobal warming, nuclear proliferation, failing schools—the world outside our windows presents us with challenging problems. But for the American economy, at least, finding a way to grow has not been one of them. Businesses and households are still investing and placing bets on a rosier future, and for five consecutive years now, those predictions have proved accurate.

But a new year brings a new challenge and a new question—how will the U.S. economy keep this winning streak alive? The 2007 economy will have to get along without the effortless injection of cash provided by the run-up of housing prices in the first half of the decade. After using their houses like ATM machines for several years running, look for consumers to be spending within their means in the coming year now that home prices are moving in the opposite direction.

That may sound to you a little like the stock market decline that presaged the 2001 recession. But few economists are making that call just yet. And that makes this year's presentation of the outlook especially timely. Because economic growth doesn't go on forever, recessions do happen, and those who see the warning signs can be better prepared.