

September 4, 2009

MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

Missouri Communities Earn Downtown Revitalization Awards



Several towns in Missouri are bursting with pride over awards that recognize their progress in downtown revitalization. The Missouri Main Street Connection presented the awards to Cape Girardeau, Clinton, Lee's Summit, Warrensburg and Washington during the Connection's first state-wide conference August 18-21, in Kansas City. [Read more...](#)

Two St. Louis Nonprofits Merge to Create One of Missouri's Largest Children's Organizations

Boys & Girls Town of Missouri and Edgewood Children's Center have announced plans to merge the two agencies into one of the largest children's not-for-profit organizations in Missouri. The merged agency will employ 735 with a projected budget of \$31.8 million. The organization will announce its new name by late fall. [Read more...](#)



New Bourbon Port Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony



A long-awaited groundbreaking was held last week for the \$5 million, 72-acre New Bourbon Port, located 3.5 miles south of Ste. Genevieve. The port will include a harbor and berthing and maintenance area for a ferry that will travel from Modoc, Ill., to Ste. Genevieve. Construction is set to begin in three to four

weeks and is expected to stimulate significant expansion of the economy in Perry and Ste. Genevieve counties. [Read more...](#)

JVIC Research Leads to Commercialization of Innovations

The unique public-private partnership at Jordan Valley Innovation Center (JVIC) in Springfield leads to more innovations being advanced to commercialization by pairing scientists with Missouri State University students and resources. Current projects being pushed to market include technologies to protect satellites from solar flares, keep soldiers safe from chemical weapons and create a protein for migraine headache sufferers from saliva samples. [Read more...](#)



Rasmussen Returns to St. Louis County Economic Council as VP of Business Development



Douglas Rasmussen has been named Vice President of Business Development for St. Louis County Economic Council. He returns to the Economic Council's Business Development Division where he previously worked four years ago in the capacities of project manager and assistant vice president. [Read more...](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Missouri Partnership Events: Sept. - Nov. 2009
[Schedule of Missouri Partnership Marketing Events](#)

September 9, 2009
[Missouri Women's Council Board Meeting](#)
 12 Noon
 Hyatt Regency Riverfront Hotel, St. Louis
 (during Governor's Conference)

September 9 - 11, 2009
[Governor's Conference on Economic Development](#)

September 10, 2009
[5th Annual Community Resource Fair](#)
Hand in Hand: Working with Children and Families

September 10 - 11, 2009
[IEDC Training Course: Managing Economic Development Organizations](#)

September 17 - 18, 2009
["Economic Development Marketing and Attraction"](#)

September 22 - 23, 2009
[Canada's Oil Sands Trade](#)

FOCUS ON MISSOURI

See you there! Governor's Conference on Economic Development Kicks Off Next Week!



Join fellow economic developers, community leaders, city planners and others at the 2009 Governor's Conference on Economic Development, September 9-11, at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront Hotel in St. Louis. An exciting agenda is planned with keynote speakers, pre-conference workshops, general and breakout sessions, award presentations and more. Registrations will be accepted on site if you're not already signed up. Go to the [Governor's Conference Web site](#) to check out the latest!

Missouri Partnership Unveils 2010 Marketing Plan

The Missouri Partnership has already been at work to develop its [2010 Marketing and Sales Plan](#) and a preview of the plan is available on the MEDC Web site. A more detailed package of information, including sign-up forms for trade shows and consultant outreach events with a cooperative marketing structure, will be provided later this fall. [Missouri Partnership...](#)



Alternative Fuels Project Receives \$14.9M Federal Grant



The U.S. Department of Energy has awarded a \$14.9 million grant to the Metropolitan Energy Information Center to help make alternative fuels available along Interstates 70 and 35. The Energy Department estimates that the initiative will help displace 548,000 gallons of petroleum. [Read more...](#)



Middle-Skills Occupations



Middle-skill occupations are often defined as jobs that require some education beyond high school but less than a bachelor's degree. These occupations make up the majority of jobs in Missouri's labor market. Trends and opportunities in middle-skills occupations across the state, as well as in the St. Louis and

Kansas City Workforce Investment Areas, are detailed in this report. [Read more...](#)

Missouri Home Loan Brief

The condition of the housing market, both nationally and in Missouri, is an important bellwether of the overall economy and eventual recovery from the current recession. Missouri home loan delinquencies and foreclosures were higher in June 2009, indicating continued struggles in the state's housing market. [Read more...](#)



Show and Conference

October 4 - 7, 2009

[IEDC Annual Conference: Renewable Communities - Leveraging Your Competitive Resources](#)

October 4 - 7, 2009

[AFCOM Data Center World® Conference](#)

October 6 - 9, 2009

[BioJapan 2009 World Business Forum](#)

October 8 - 9, 2009

[Missouri Economic Development Financing Association \(MEDFA\) Annual Conference](#)

October 12 - 14, 2009

[CoreNet Global Fall Summit](#)

October 13 - 17, 2009

[Greater KC Chamber of Commerce Partnership Mission to Vancouver](#)

October 18 - 19, 2009

[46th Annual MCB Conference](#)

Capitol Plaza,
Jefferson City

October 21 - 24, 2009

[Taiwan International Green Industry Show \(TiGiS\) 2009](#)

October 22 - 23, 2009

[AIM's 2009 Missouri Tax Conference](#)

October 28 - 30, 2009

[MEDC Fall Conference](#)
Columbia

November 3 - 4, 2009

[China Overseas Investment Fair \(COIF\) 2009](#)
[Trade Show Commitment Form](#)

November 4 - 6, 2009

[2009 Statewide Historic Preservation Conference: Protecting the](#)



Washington County awarded \$250,000 public needs CDBG for ADA improvements

Washington County will be able to make Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements to the



Majority of Employers Planning to Hire

In an indication that may fuel optimism about the economy, [USA Today](#) recently reported that more than half of employers plan to hire over the next year.



Ozarks Stainless Steel Companies Serve BioPharma Industry

A group of niche manufacturers in the Ozarks have a hands-on role in the fight against illnesses such as cancer,

Washington County Courthouse following approval of a \$250,000 public needs grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). [Read more...](#)

Scotland County Awarded \$163,400 Public Needs CDBG for Bridge Replacement Project

Scotland County will replace six bridges that are all structurally deficient or functionally obsolete, via a \$163,400 public needs grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, that was recently approved by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). [Read more...](#)

Sarcoxie Awarded \$122,000 Public Needs CDBG for Demolition of Structures

City officials in Sarcoxie have identified 19 vacant, deteriorated structures that are in need of demolition to improve the appearance of the city and solve a safety hazard for residents. The city will demolish those structures with a \$122,000 public needs grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. [Read more...](#)

West Plains Awarded \$400,000 CDBG to Assist with Economic Development Efforts

DREAM community West Plains will utilize a \$400,000 public needs grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to renovate the Butler Building in

The article referred to a survey by staffing company Robert Half International and [CareerBuilder.com](#), in which 53 percent of employers indicated that they plan to hire full-time employees within the next 12 months, particularly in the technology, customer service and sales areas. Some 40 percent plan to hire part-time and/or temporary workers as well. The survey also included a finding that supports continued and increased skill-development, such as services administered by DWD. The article states, "Many employers also reported difficulty finding skilled people to fill openings...44 percent of the resumes they receive are from unqualified candidates."

September Job Fair to Host 20+ Businesses

FedEx, Cargill, Scholastic, Dollar General and several state agencies are just some of the employers that have signed on to participate in a [fall job fair](#) in Jefferson City on September 15, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the JCPenney wing at Capital Mall. The event is sponsored by the [Jefferson City News Tribune](#), in conjunction with the Missouri Career Center in Jefferson City. To sign up or find out more information, contact [Brenda Perkins](#) at (573) 761-0273.

St. Louis Youth Reconnect with School Via Next-Gen Program

In addition to teaching workplace skills and career experience, the St. Louis UrbanFORCE/Next-Generation Jobs Team is having another effect - reengaging high school dropouts. [UrbanFORCE](#) has a subsidiary "Earn and

diabetes and various flu strains. From Paul Mueller Co. to Stainless Technology to Custom Metalcraft, Springfield-made stainless equipment is moving to Europe, South America and Southeast Asia, and local stainless steel manufacturers are making their mark in the biopharmaceutical sector. [Read more...](#)

Small Businesses Won Record \$93.3 Billion in Federal Contracts

Small businesses won a record \$93.3 billion in federal prime contracts in Fiscal Year 2008 (Oct. 1, 2007-Sept. 30, 2008), an increase of almost \$10 billion from 2007, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration's third annual small business procurement scorecard, released in August. In addition, small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned businesses and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses increased their share of federal contracting dollars by at least \$1 billion to \$3 billion. [Read more...](#)

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tours Missouri BioMass Plant

The Obama administration's Rural Tour recently highlighted the [Show Me Energy Cooperative](#) in Centerview, Mo. as an example of how crop residue can be used to create energy. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack says the biomass facility is taking wood, corn stalks and other crop residue and converting it into pellets that can be used to produce energy or a substitute for propane on

[Irreplaceable](#)

[PAST ISSUES](#)

[Missouri Focus August 28, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus August 21, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus August 14, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus August 7, 2009](#)

[DED PRESS RELEASES](#)

[QUICK LINKS](#)

[Dept. of Economic Development \(DED\)](#)

[State of Missouri](#)

[Missouri Business Portal](#)

[Missouri Women's Council](#)

[Missouri Women Owned Business Network](#)

[Missouri LocationOne](#)

[Missouri CareerSource.com](#)

[MOSourceLink](#)

[Missouri Workforce Investment Board](#)

[MERIC](#)

[Division of Tourism](#)

[Missouri Development Finance Board](#)

[Missouri Community Betterment](#)

[Missouri Community Service Commission \(MCSC\)](#)

downtown West Plains. [Read more...](#)

City of Risco Awarded \$500,000 CDBG for Water System Improvement Project

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has announced that the city of Risco has been approved for a \$500,000 grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The grant will be utilized for a water system improvement project. [Read more...](#)

Lexington Awarded \$242,937 Public Needs CDBG for Street and Drainage Improvement Project

A street and drainage improvement project for the city of Lexington will be funded by a \$242,937 public needs grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. [Read more...](#)

Learn" program that provides General Educational Development (GED) training to participants who have dropped out of school. The training is delivered in partnership with the St. Louis Public Schools, and includes an individual instructor for extra encouragement and assistance. Learn more by contacting UrbanFORCE Youth Services Manager [Alice Prince](#), pictured below with Superintendent Dr. Kelvin Adams.



the farm. [Read more...](#)

Boeing Celebrates 70 Years in St. Louis

Hundreds of Boeing employees were joined at the St. Louis Integrated Defense Services site by community leaders, politicians, company executives and others to celebrate the anniversary of James S. McDonnell founding the company that for decades bore his name and is now part of The Boeing Company. Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is the largest manufacturer in Missouri and the state's second largest employer, with approximately 16,000 employees. [Read more...](#)

[Missouri Partnership](#)

[Missouri Main Street Connection](#)

[Missouri Arts Council](#)

[Economic Development at Mizzou](#)

[University of Missouri Extension](#)

[Missouri Procurement and Technical Assistance Centers \(MO PTAC\)](#)

[Missouri Business Development Program](#)

[Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers \(SBTDC\) - \(Schedule of training seminars at MSU...\)](#)

[Missouri Economic Development Council \(MEDC\)](#)

[International Economic Development Council \(IEDC\)](#)

[Associated Industries of Missouri \(AIM\)](#)

[Missouri Enterprise Business Assistance Center](#)

[Missouri General Assembly](#)

[Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)

GLOBAL NEWS

Industry Focus: Auto Industry

Springfield Limousine Manufacturer Goes "Green" With Electric Powered Limos



Springfield-based Imperial Coach Builders is about to lead the pack with new technology to create electric-powered limousines. "The gasoline engine is going to go by the wayside eventually. It is our belief that pure electric power is going to be the ultimate way to go," said Tim Catterson. And, the new electric engines are made just up the road in Kansas City by a company called Plug-In Motors. The conversion will provide about 100 high-tech manufacturing jobs to the Springfield area, according to Catterson. [Read more...](#)

Hallmark Expands its U.K. Operations

Hallmark Cards recently signed a marketing agreement with Great Britain-based *OK! Magazine* to launch exclusive greeting cards that can be designed through its online greeting card service. Promotions are planned in upcoming editions of the entertainment magazine. [Read more...](#)



Consumer Confidence Index Rises in August

The New York-based Conference Board announced last week that the Consumer Confidence Index rose to 54.1 in August, beating economists' expectations of a slight increase to 47.5.





[more...](#)

Analysts predict the economy will grow 2-3 percent in the July-September quarter, driven by a more stable housing market and the Cash for Clunkers program, which boosted auto sales. [Read](#)

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**Questions or Comments?
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