



February 6, 2009

## MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

### Pike County Courthouse Receives Grant for Restorations



Commissioners in Pike County have been notified by the Department of Natural Resources that their application for the Missouri Heritage Properties Program has been approved and the county will receive \$58,179 to make improvements to the courthouse. The Missouri Heritage Properties Program helps spur economic development in communities across the state by

providing grants for the preservation of important historic properties that currently cannot benefit from other development tools such as state and federal tax credits. [Read more...](#)

### Hannibal Seeks to Grow Downtown with New Web Site

The Downtown Hannibal Development Corporation has enhanced its web site in order to provide better information and attract businesses to the downtown area. The new one-stop guide features tax incentives, available properties, license requirements, retail analysis and much more. [Read more...](#)



### Holts Summit Breaks Ground on Unique New Park



Grants and city funds have helped Holts Summit city officials bring to fruition the first public handicap-accessible city park in Mid-Missouri. Interim city clerk Victor Pitman said that construction should begin on the park in February and completion could come as early as mid-March, just in time for spring break from local schools. (Photo courtesy of Ra'Vae Edwards, *Jefferson City News Tribune*) [Read more...](#)

COMMUNITY

WORKFORCE

BUSINESS

GLOBAL NEWS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

February 9 - 10, 2009  
[MEDC Winter Conference](#)

February 10, 2009  
[GLOBE XVII Program](#)  
(Nine-month program meets monthly on the second TUESDAY of each month, except April)

February 12, 2009  
["Tax Incentives for Exporters, Tax Issues for Foreign Investment, Expatriate Taxation"](#)

February 18, 2009 -  
Session 2 - The "Nuts and Bolts" of Getting Started  
["The Basics of International Trade"](#)  
[Seminar Series](#)

March 18, 2009 - Session 3  
April 8, 2009 - Session 4

### **MEDC Offers Opportunity for Training**

The first session at the MEDC Winter Conference features Ed Morrison of the Purdue Center for Regional Development. Mr. Morrison's work is featured in the recent Kauffman Foundation report on "The 2008 State New Economy Index" and figures prominently in recent ED strategic thinking. MEDC is offering a great opportunity to hear Mr. Morrison's presentation on Monday, February 9, from 1:15 to 4:45 p.m., for the low price of \$50. MEDC is offering this unique opportunity for its members to invite staff, City Council members, Board members and others to hear Mr. Morrison discuss "Open Source Economic Development." E-mail [Pat Amick](mailto:Pat.Amick@medc.org), or call (573) 636-7383 with your reservation(s). [Read more...](#)



**February 18, 2009**  
[Missouri Chamber Day at the Capitol](#)

**February 23 - 25, 2009**  
[IEDC's Economic Development Credit Analysis Course](#)  
Baltimore, MD

**March 4, 2009**  
[Missouri Women's Council Board Meeting](#)

**March 17, 2009**  
["The Intersection of Animal and Human Health Opportunities for Collaboration Between Canada and the Kansas City Region"](#)

**April 2, 2009**  
Save the date!  
Utility & Energy Conference  
Columbia

**April 19 - 22, 2009**  
[International Conference on Business Incubation - "Building on Best Practices"](#)

**April 19 - 23, 2009**  
[Heartland Economic Development Course](#)  
Adams Pointe Conference Center - Blue Springs, Missouri

**April 21 - 22, 2009**  
[Complying with U.S. Export Controls](#)

**April 23, 2009**  
[How To Develop an Export Management and Compliance Program](#)

### **FOCUS ON MISSOURI**

#### **Gold Canyon Signs Joint Exploration Agreement With Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC)**



There's gold in them hills...Well, sort of. Gold Canyon Resources Inc., has announced that the company and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Gold Canyon Resources USA Inc., have entered into a Joint Exploration Agreement with the Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC). The Joint Exploration Agreement will conduct rare Earth element exploration in the Show-Me State. [Read more...](#)

#### **Missouri Motion Media Association Conference**

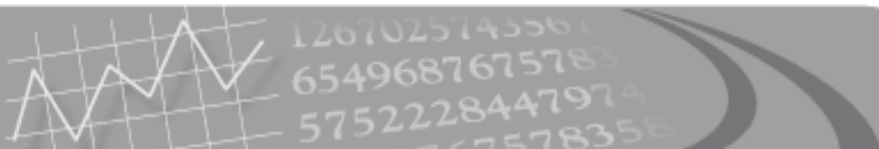
The Missouri Motion Media Association (MOMMA) Film Summit and Conference will be held February 26-27, at the Marriott Courtyard, 3301 Lemone Industrial Boulevard, in Columbia, Missouri. This is an important first conference for MOMMA and for the industry, with a great line-up of educational programs. Register online at [Missouri Motion Media Association](#). [Read more...](#)



#### **Rapid Response Team Activated to Assist Displaced St. Louis Workers**



The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has directed the state's Rapid Response unit to begin providing informational meetings for workers affected by St. Louis-area layoffs to provide information on the types of reemployment services available. [Read more...](#)



## New Literacy Data Released



The National Center for Education Statistics recently released the "National Assessment of Adult Literacy" with state and county-level indirect estimates of the percentage of adults who lack basic prose literacy skills for 1992 and 2003. According to the estimates, seven percent of adults in Missouri lacked basic prose literacy skills in 2003, compared to 13 percent in 1992. [Read more...](#)

## Retail Trade Analysis: Central Workforce Investment Area

Retail trade is one of the key indicators of regional economic health, and retail pull factors measure the retail sales captured by counties. The retail strength of a county is a function of customer base served, the buying power of the customer base, and quality of the retail environment. The Central WIA Retail Trade report shows Camden County had the highest pull factor in the region. [Read more...](#)



April 30 - May 1, 2009

[Entrepreneurial and Small Business Strategies](#)

## PAST ISSUES

[Missouri Focus  
January 30, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus  
January 23, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus  
January 16, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus  
January 9, 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](#)

[MissouriCareerSource.com](#)

[MERIC](#)

[Division of Tourism](#)

[Missouri Development Finance Board](#)

[Missouri Community](#)

## FOCUS ON COMMUNITY

### St. Louis Shelter to Receive \$203,234 in Youth Opportunities Tax Credits

The Missouri Department of Economic Development has announced that Covenant House Missouri has been approved for \$203,234 in Youth Opportunities Program (YOP) tax credits. Covenant House Missouri provides housing and support services to homeless and at-risk youth, ages 16-21, in the St. Louis region. [Read more...](#)

## FOCUS ON WORKFORCE

### Unemployment Reporting Suspended In Response to Weather Conditions

Much of southern Missouri is still recovering from last week's severe ice storms, resultant power outages and hazardous travel conditions. State officials recently took two major steps to help protect the safety of area citizens who are receiving unemployment insurance (UI). For 39 counties in the affected region, the Division of Employment Security (DES) has temporarily suspended the requirement that UI claimants report in person to a Missouri Career Center every four weeks to receive benefits. DES provided a way for these claimants to submit a notification indicating their exemption. Also, the Division of Workforce Development (DWD) temporarily closed the

## FOCUS ON BUSINESS

### KCSourceLink Surveys Area Businesses about Economy

A survey conducted last quarter by [KCSourceLink](#) asked its network of nonprofit business-building organizations how area businesses are coping with the economic downturn. Survey results indicate that entrepreneurs are optimistic and see opportunities in recessionary times. [Read more...](#)

### Missouri Entrepreneurs, Innovators Honored by State Legislators

Owners and managers of 20 outstanding small businesses in Missouri were honored by members of the Missouri General Assembly last week at a business showcase in Jefferson City. The event, sponsored by the Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC) and

### **Department of Economic Development grants Enhanced Enterprise Zone**

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has announced it has approved Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) designation for Lamar. This designation will allow Lamar city officials to continue to move forward with the community's economic development efforts. [Read more...](#)

### **Department of Economic Development awards \$12,000 Community Development Block Grant to Kirksville**

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has announced that the city of Kirksville has been approved for a \$12,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The grant will be utilized to complete a \$12,000 historic resource survey plan. The plan will be used by the city and historic preservation commission to set priorities for targeting preservation efforts and funding, including planning for future grant applications. [Read more...](#)

Sikeston, Caruthersville, Kennett, and Poplar Bluff Career Centers.

[Read more...](#)

### **Governor Highlights Career Center Customer in Speech**

In his January 27 [State of the State Address](#),

Governor Nixon shared the story of Patrick Davis, who was laid off from the Hazelwood Ford Plant in 2006, but “dusted himself off and took action to learn a new skill” by enrolling in a worker retraining program at Florissant Valley Community College, and landing a job at Boeing building F-18 fighter jets. Patrick was glad to share that he got a boost on his journey from the Missouri Career Center in Florissant, where he enrolled in job training programs that funded his career assistance and training. Calling his Career Center case manager, Tom Fearn, “very knowledgeable and helpful,” Patrick pointed to his attainment of a Career Readiness Certificate as a major factor in getting the job. “I can honestly say I wouldn’t have gotten this job without the Career Center’s help,” he said.

the Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC), highlighted the achievements of some of the two programs' top performing clients.

[Read more...](#)

### **Monsanto Donates \$1M to Center for Emerging Technologies**

Monsanto Co. recently made a \$1 million donation to the Center for Emerging Technologies to assist the biotech incubator with its \$28 million laboratory expansion project. The new wet lab and innovation center facility will assist and nurture biotech startup companies with the hope of keeping them in the region as they grow.

[Read more...](#)

### **A Look at Wind Power in Missouri**

St. Louis-based Wind Capital Group is in the forefront of creating wind energy for the state of Missouri. The company has already built four wind farms in the state and will begin construction on its fifth this year. Anita Randolph, director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Energy Center, said, “This wind energy can help diversify our energy sources and keep more dollars in Missouri’s economy by using more Missouri-based energy sources.” [Read more...](#)

[Betterment](#)

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

[Missouri Main Street Connection](#)

[Missouri Arts Council](#)

[Economic Development at Mizzou](#)

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

[Missouri Small Business Development Centers \(SBDC\)](#)

[Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers \(SBTDC\)](#)

[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](#)

### St. Louis-China Hub Gets \$1.7M in Federal Funds



The U.S. Department of Commerce has granted \$1.7 million in federal funds to the St. Louis County Economic Council to support the St. Louis-China trade initiative, which will make St. Louis a hub for China trade. The investment award follows an announcement last week from Senators Kit Bond and Claire McCaskill, Chinese Ambassador Zhou Wenzhong, and other Missouri officials and

business leaders introducing the Midwest China Hub Commission as a new organization which will help develop and establish the St. Louis-China hub initiative. [Read more...](#)

### Export Seminars Coming to Kansas City

Join the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), U.S. Department of Commerce Commercial Service - Kansas City, and the Mid-America District Export Council for two training programs!

**Complying with U.S. Export Controls** will be held April 21-22, and **How To Develop an Export Management and Compliance Program** will be held April 23. Both workshops will be held at the Sheraton Kansas City Sports Complex Hotel.

Registration deadline is April 14. [Read more...](#)



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**Questions or Comments?  
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