

Missouri

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December 18, 2009

MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

Revised Amendment for CDBG-Recovery (ARRA) Funding



The Department of Economic Development (DED) is proposing a revision to two projects that are receiving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Recovery Act (ARRA) funds. The revised [amendment](#) is available for a public comment period of seven days (ending at 5 p.m. on December 24, 2009).

Comments may be directed to [Andy Papen](#) via e-mail. [Read more...](#)

2010 CDBG Application Training Workshops

The Missouri Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program will hold five training sessions in January to teach participants how to complete the FY2010 CDBG application for non-entitlement areas of the state (cities of less than 50,000 and counties of less than 200,000 in population). Participants will learn the basic application requirements, plus more specific information geared toward each category of funding. FY2010 applications will be available at each training session. The training is free and open to the public, and no registration is necessary. For more information, please call (573) 751-3600. [Schedule of workshops...](#)



Missouri Homeownership Preservation Summit – January 13-14



Foreclosures are rising nationally: What are the trends in Missouri? What can your community do to reduce foreclosures, stabilize neighborhoods and maintain the tax base? What help is currently available for Missouri

homeowners? The mission of the summit is to bring together elected officials, community leaders, industry professionals and non-profit housing agency directors to discuss these issues. [Read more...](#)

New Railroad Track Reduces Amtrak Delays, Enables Trains to Pass

Missouri Department of Transportation officials, the city of California, Union Pacific Railroad and Amtrak recently opened a new 9,000-foot stretch of railroad track just west of California, Missouri. The \$8.1 million project permits two trains to pass, allowing additional capacity and reduction of delays for both rail freight shipments and the Amtrak Missouri River Runner trains between Kansas City and St. Louis. [Read more...](#)



Jefferson City Council Approves Bonds for Command Web Expansion



The Jefferson City Council recently approved \$22.5 million in taxable industrial development revenue bonds to assist with a 45,000-square-foot expansion for book printing at Command Web Offset Co. The company will pay off the bonds through a lease and plans to create 50 new jobs with the expansion. [Read more...](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Missouri Partnership Marketing Events

[Schedule of Missouri Partnership Marketing Events](#)

December 21, 2009

[DED Webinar: Missouri Certified Sites Program](#)

January 7 - 9, 2010

[Missouri Governor's Conference on Agriculture](#)

January 12, 2010

[CDBG Application Training Workshop](#)
Kirksville

January 13, 2010

[CDBG Application Training Workshop](#)
Maryville

January 13 - 14, 2010

[Missouri Homeownership Preservation Summit](#)

January 20 - March 31, 2010

[Making Exporting Easier Webinar Series](#)

January 21, 2010

[CDBG Application Training Workshop](#)
Van Buren

IEDC Courses Being Offered in Missouri During 2010

The Missouri Economic Development Council (MEDC) provides convenient and cost-saving opportunities for its members to attend International Economic Development Council (IEDC) professional development courses in the state of Missouri. The following IEDC courses will be offered in 2010:



- Economic Development and Strategic Planning, March 18-19, Springfield
- Business Retention and Expansion, November 18-19, Kansas City

Please sign up for these courses through the [MEDC website](#) in order to take advantage of the host discount. Information on the Economic Development and Strategic Planning course is already available online. If you have any questions, please contact [John Engelmann](#), CECD or [Mike Kirchhoff](#), CECD.

FOCUS ON MISSOURI

DED Offers December Webinar: December 21 – Missouri Certified Sites



The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has scheduled its next webinar for December 21, from 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Presenters Jo Ann Dent and Joel McNutt will provide an overview of the

Missouri Certified Sites program, explain how your industrial sites can become "certified," and review the application process. [Register here](#) for the free webinar. [Submit suggestions](#) for future webinar topics.

DED Releases November 2009 State Jobs Report

Missouri's unemployment rate increased slightly in November, according to data released today by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). Missouri's unemployment rate rose to 9.5 percent, as state nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 3,600 jobs. It was the ninth consecutive month that Missouri's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was lower than the U.S. figure, which was 10 percent in November. [Read more...](#)



Missouri Organizations win Three of Five Prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards for 2009



Missouri organizations have won three of the five 2009 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards announced last week by President Barack Obama and U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke. The award is the nation's highest Presidential honor for innovation and performance excellence. Gov. Jay Nixon congratulated Heartland Health, St. Joseph; Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies, Kansas City; and MidwayUSA, Columbia.

"My congratulations to these three award winners for this prestigious honor, and for demonstrating that Missouri is a place where innovation in business is encouraged, fostered and supported," Gov. Nixon said. [Read more...](#)



Missouri Green Jobs Report Released

The results from the first statewide survey of green-identified industry sectors shows that Missouri is already on the cutting edge of the new Green Economy in many places around the state, with primary and supporting green jobs accounting for a sizeable 4.8 percent of total employment. Green jobs are

January 21, 2010

[IEDC Webinar: "Developing Community-Based Venture Financing"](#)

January 22, 2010

[CDBG Application Training Workshop](#)
Lowry City

January 26 - 27, 2010

[Complying with U.S. Export Controls](#)

January 27, 2010

[CDBG Application Training Workshop](#)
Jefferson City

January 28, 2010

[2010 Transportation Conference](#)
Jefferson City

January 31 - February 2, 2010

[IEDC Leadership Summit](#)

February 8 - 9, 2010

[MEDC Winter Conference](#)

March 18 - 19, 2010

[Economic Development and Strategic Planning](#)
Springfield

March 24 - 25, 2010

[InvestMidwest](#)

April 18 - 22, 2010

[Heartland Basic E.D. Course](#)
Blue Springs

April 19 - 21, 2010

[4th Annual Maastricht Institute of Entrepreneurship](#)

July 25 - 29, 2010

[2010 Summers @ Mizzou. Build-a-Business Camp](#)

[PAST ISSUES](#)



expected to continue growing at a fast rate in the future with many “good and green” career opportunities across a wide mix of education and skill levels. [Read more...](#)

2009 Holiday Season Fun Facts

Enjoy MERIC’s fun facts covering all of your holiday favorites: shopping, decorating, snowfall chances, tree selection and more. Have yourself a jolly holiday season! [Read more...](#)



[Missouri Focus
December 11, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus
December 4, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus
November 20, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus
November 13, 2009](#)



**FOCUS ON
COMMUNITY**

DED Awards \$100,000 in Neighborhood Assistance Program Tax Credits to Peter & Paul Community Services

Peter & Paul Community Services, St. Louis, will utilize \$100,000 in Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits approved by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) to provide transitional housing and supportive services to the homeless – especially those experiencing mental illness, HIV/AIDS and drug and alcohol addiction.

[Read more...](#)

Urban Development Projects Carried Out by Drury Students

Urban development projects throughout Missouri are being carried out by Drury University architecture students as part of the school's Center for Community Studies (CCS). Students are working this semester in Appleton City and Warsaw, and have assisted several cities that are designated as DREAM (Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri) communities. The Missouri Extension Office



**FOCUS ON
WORKFORCE**

President Announces Job Creation Plan; Joplin Business Discusses Impact

Last week, President Obama hosted a Jobs Forum in which he put forth a recommendation to foster job growth and encourage businesses to hire. He wants to focus on “enhancing the competitiveness of America’s businesses, encouraging investment, and promoting exports.” Following the [announcement](#), a Joplin business leader and workforce executive described what the local impact would be. American Ramp Company CEO Jim Moss said the news was encouraging for small companies like his, which are the backbone of the U.S. economy. Southwest Workforce Board Director Jasen Jones pointed out how the Joplin area is logistically ideal for business investments.

[Read more...](#)

Fenton Job Fair Wows Businesses, Spurs Commitments

The Dec. 9 job fair at the [Regional Collaboration Center](#) in



**FOCUS ON
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Unilever to Expand its Jefferson City Facility

Unilever announced plans last week to increase the capacity of its Jefferson City-based facility. As a result, the company will generate a local investment of approximately \$17 million and create 54 new jobs in 2010. The Jefferson City facility currently produces a variety of personal care products, including shampoos, conditioners, body washes, and skin lotions. [Read more...](#)

Veran Medical Technologies Gets FDA Product Approval

St. Louis-based Veran Medical Technologies has received approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its SPiN Drive™ System, which is used to diagnose and treat lung cancer. Veran’s product acts as a GPS-like system to enable lung specialists and surgeons to immediately diagnose malignancy at earlier stages. The company moved last year from Nashville to St. Louis and is utilizing the Missouri Quality Jobs program.

[Read more...](#)

[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 \(MCSC\)](#)

[Missouri Partnership](#)

continues to work with communities after student projects are completed in order to carry out an action plan for revitalized and safer downtown areas. [Read more...](#)

Wellston Child Care Center to Receive \$3M in Federal Funds

A children's center planned for Wellston, Mo., will get \$3 million in federal funds, under the omnibus spending bill that passed the U.S. Senate Sunday. The funds will go to the St. Louis County Economic Council, which will design and construct the Wellston Developmental Child Care Center in St. Louis to help provide child care services for low- and moderate-income families. [Read more...](#)

NECAC Showcases Successes of 2009

The North East Community Action Corporation (NECAC) has been able to weather what its president calls the "dark clouds" of the economic downturn by focusing on service to clients. NECAC highlighted the successes of the last year and looked ahead to 2010 at its annual meeting earlier this month. The event, attended by almost 200 people, was the first such gathering the agency had sponsored since 2007. [Read more...](#) (Scroll down on page)

Fenton was successful in connecting some 200 job seekers with dozens of employers, but it also resulted in some noteworthy accomplishments. Impressed with the friendly staff, St. Louis-based Express-Scripts expressed interest in working with the Center to hire laid-off auto workers for its new nationwide Pharmacy Distribution Center, due to open in early spring 2010. Also pleased with the helpful staff and the quality of the job seekers, the U.S. Census Bureau completed work applications and tested close to 30 job seekers. St. Louis Career Center Business Representative Pete Petersen specifically applauded the outstanding contributions of Tina Bonnot, Sheila Williams, Derek Collins, Gordon Douglas, Joe Ruzicka and St. Louis Community College and AmeriCorps staff. [Job Fair Photo...](#)

Workforce Grant Funds Southeast Hospital Training Equipment

Southeast Hospital can thank the Southeast Workforce Region and its workforce innovation grant, which funded two new high-tech simulated patients to be used with medical training of hospital staff. Nursing students will begin training on one of the mannequins in January. Southeast Hospital Nurse Educator Kathy O'Howell stated that the devices will give students a higher confidence level in their training. [Read more...](#)

Posty Cards Begins K.C. Green Industrial Expansion

Posty Cards, a Kansas City firm that makes personalized business greeting cards, has launched its \$6.4 million "green" expansion project. Being called the "greenest industrial project in Kansas City," the company's electricity will be offset by renewable wind power, catalogs are printed on paper certified by the Forest Stewardship Council, and the company does extensive recycling. Posty Cards plans to create 22 jobs within five years. [Read more...](#)

Graham Packaging Opens St. Louis Plant

Graham Packaging Co. recently began manufacturing operations at its new on-site plant in St. Louis. The firm makes bottles for industry giants such as Dial, Purex, Renuzit and Right Guard. The St. Louis facility will enable the company to see significant savings in transportation and labor costs by producing the bottles on-site and feeding them directly into production lines. [Read more...](#)

[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 \(SBTDC\) {SBTDC training seminars at MSU}](#)

[MoFAST](#)

[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

Proton Therapeutics Wins Innovation Award from Swiss Group





Technology
Pioneer
2010

The Switzerland-based World Economic Forum has awarded Proteon Therapeutics Inc. with one of its 26 Technology Pioneer awards. The group recognizes forward-thinking startup companies that are active in energy, environmental technologies, health, information technologies and new media. Proteon was founded in Kansas City and its research facilities remain there. [Read more...](#)

Making Exporting Easier Webinar Series

The office of the [U.S. Commercial Service](#) has developed a webinar series titled "Making Exporting Easier." The series is comprised of six individual webinars on the topics of Steps for Identifying Best Export Markets, An Introduction to Export Documentation, Methods of International Payments, Effective Ways to use Trade Shows, Advanced Product Classification and Export Credit Insurance. The webinars are scheduled every other week from January 20 through March 31, 2010. Registrants may register for webinars individually or the entire series, through U.S. Commercial Service offices in [St. Louis](#) or [Kansas City](#). [Read more...](#)



India Solar Energy Trade Mission II - February 14-19



Building on the success of the first solar energy trade mission in March 2009, the highly anticipated Second Solar Energy Trade Mission to India, February 14-19, 2010, will include visits to New Delhi, Chennai and Mumbai. As a direct result of the first solar mission, contracts worth approximately 60MW of solar power, representing a collective value of \$252 million, were awarded to U.S. providers. Mission participants can expect to benefit from business-to-business matchmaking, industry networking events, and policy discussions with the central and state governments. Apply by December 31! [Read more...](#)

Medical Trade Mission to India - March 8-13

The U.S. Department of Commerce is organizing a Medical Trade Mission to three cities in India (New Delhi, Chennai and Mumbai) from March 8-13, 2010. The Medical Trade Mission will include representatives of U.S. manufacturers of medical equipment/device and healthcare service providers. The mission's focus is to assist U.S. companies to enter and/or expand their presence in India. Delegates will participate in briefings, roundtable discussions, one-on-one meetings with potential end-users, discussions with government officials and private sector players, representatives and partners. There is an option for companies to exhibit their products and services in the U.S. Pavilion at the Medical Fair India 2010 in Mumbai. Deadline for applications is January 8, 2010. [Read more...](#)



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**Questions or Comments?
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