

October 23, 2009

MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

Jefferson City MSA Ranks in Top 20 for "Best Places to Launch a Small Business"



CNNMoney recently released its list of "Best Places to Launch a Small Business 2009" and the Jefferson City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) ranked No. 20 in the small metros. Growing economies, affordable workers, stable housing markets, and low crime rates were considered when selecting the metro areas that have all the features

entrepreneurs need to thrive. [Read more...](#)

MoDOT Celebrates Mural at Northwest Missouri Welcome Center

An artist's reception will be held Nov. 4 at the Eagleville, Mo. welcome center to celebrate the completion of a new mural that depicts Northwest Missouri's history, geography and attractions. The project was a cooperative effort of the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), the Missouri Arts Council and a mural review committee that includes Eagleville residents and artists. The public is invited to attend the celebration, which begins at 1 p.m. at the welcome center. [Read more...](#)



City of Liberty Setting Stage for Development with Aggressive Incentives and New Business Liaison



The Liberty City Council has implemented a new incentive policy that provides 75 - 90 percent tax abatement for new light industrial businesses. The city also created a new Economic and Businesses Development manager position to focus on strengthening relationships with existing and potential businesses, and light industrial and high-tech job creation. Liberty Mayor Greg Canuteson said, "We need to clearly demonstrate our commitment to bringing new, well-paying jobs to our community while also developing a more diverse and viable tax base. We have done just that with this new incentives program and by creating this new position." [Read more...](#)

Five Missouri Universities Recognized for Partnering with the Community

The University of Missouri campuses in Kansas City and St. Louis, and St. Louis University all made it into the top 25 in the latest "Savior of our Cities" rankings, conducted by a research fellow at Westfield State College in Massachusetts. Washington University in St. Louis and Graceland University in Independence were also recognized in the top universities that share with their metropolitan area a view that each needs the other to survive. The rankings are based on a survey that looks at 10 factors, including economic impact and involvement in community service. [Read more...](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Missouri Partnership Events: Oct. - Nov. 2009

[Schedule of Missouri Partnership Marketing Events](#)

October 27, 2009

[DED Webinar: Local TIF Annual Report](#)

October 28 - 30, 2009

[MEDC Fall Conference](#)

November 1 - 5, 2009

[Annual Energy Sector Mission](#)

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 Irreplaceable](#)

November 4 - 6, 2009

[North America Works + National Forum on Trade Policy 2009 Conference](#)

November 6, 2009

["Tools and Techniques for](#)

"Tools and Techniques for Rural Development" – Nov. 6 in Moberly



The University of Missouri Extension, Moberly Area Community College, and the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis are sponsoring a forum on rural development issues, Friday, November 6, in Moberly. "Tools and Techniques for Rural Development" will discuss the future of rural development with a specific focus on regionalism, workforce development, small business finance and entrepreneurship. Experts in these fields will facilitate discussion with participants on tools and techniques that are available now. [Read more...](#)

FOCUS ON MISSOURI

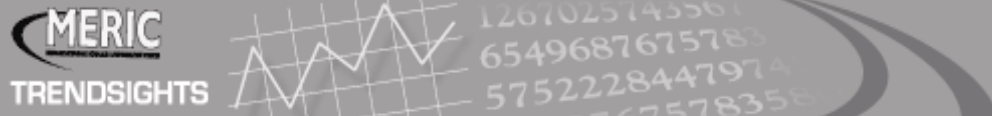
DED Announces Five Missouri Communities Selected for 2009 DREAM Initiative



Brookfield, California, New Haven, Rolla and Savannah are the five cities selected to participate in the 2009 DREAM (Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri) Initiative. Their selection, from a total of 16 applicants, marks the fourth round of communities inducted into the program that helps communities to more efficiently and effectively engage in downtown redevelopment and revitalization. [Read more...](#)

DED Releases September 2009 State Jobs Report

Missouri labor conditions stabilized somewhat in September, as the seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged from the August figure. The rate of job loss also slowed over the month, according to data released last week by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). [Read more...](#)



Savings During 2009 Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday Released



Sixty-two counties, as well as St. Louis City, participated in the 2009 Back-to-School Tax holiday. That meant consumers saved not only the 4.225 percent state sales tax, but also the relevant local taxes as well. In addition to traditional items such as pencils, notebooks, clothing and shoes, the tax holiday included computers, software and peripherals. [Read more...](#)

Census Bureau Releases New USA County Data

This latest Census Bureau update features more than 6,500 data items at the national, state and county level from a variety of sources. New and revised data items include: 2008 Housing Unit Estimates; 2008 Consolidated Federal Funds Reports; 2008 Supplemental Security Income; 2008 Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits; 2007 County Business Patterns; 2007 Physicians; 2007 Non-employer Statistics; and 2006 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates. [Read more...](#)



DED Awards \$51,737 in Enhanced Enterprise Zone Tax Credits to Kansas City Business



DED/DWD Report Tracks High Demand, Achievement in Job Training Services for



O'Reilly Automotive Named to Top Retailers Growing during Recession

[Rural Development](#)

November 11 - 13, 2009
[HOSPEX Japan](#)

November 18 - 20, 2009
[4th Annual Missouri Reentry Conference](#)

April 19 - 21, 2010
[4th Annual Maastricht Institute of Entrepreneurship](#)

[PAST ISSUES](#)

[Missouri Focus October 16, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus October 9, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus October 2, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus September 25, 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](#)

Kansas City's Fluid Equipment has been approved for \$51,737 in Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) state tax credits over a five-year period from the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) for the creation of four new jobs and new investment of \$1,260,000 at the new facility located at 951 W. 141st Street, Kansas City. [Read more...](#)

DED Awards NAP Tax Credits to St. Louis-based Non-profit Organization for Facility for Abuse, Neglect Victims in Springfield

St. Louis-based not-for-profit organization Presbyterian Children's Services has been approved for \$250,000 in Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) for the acquisition and renovation of a 9,500-square-foot facility in Springfield, that will enable Presbyterian Children's Services to increase the number of children and families receiving services. [Read more...](#)

It's No DREAM: DED Selects New Haven for Initiative

New Haven is really no different from similar-sized communities in the Show-Me State. A small town with limited resources. But in spite of its size, New Haven has a strong commitment to its downtown. It also is one of the latest small towns in Missouri to have been bestowed Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) designation. [Read more...](#)

Missourians

On Oct 14, DED released "[Competing in the 21st Century: Building the Workforce To Lead Missouri's Economic Transformation](#)," the workforce system's annual report for 2009. The report included performance data on the various federal- and state-funded career assistance and training services delivered through the system of 43 Missouri Career Centers during the period of July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009. The numbers showed dramatic increases in the number of people receiving workforce services, including a 70 percent increase in overall customers to 398,092. The news was reported by the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals and [KFVS TV](#) in Cape Girardeau. In a recent [press release](#) about an award received by DWD, Gov. Nixon stated, "Not only is Missouri home to the hardest-working and most dependable workforce in the nation, it also has the best workforce system." [Read more...](#)

U.S. DOL: NGJT Top 10 in Nation

The St. Louis County affiliate of Governor Nixon's Next-Generation Jobs Team (NGJT) was recently cited by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) as one of the top 10 summer programs in the nation. Representatives of the program will be recognized and share information at the [National Association of Workforce Development Professionals' National Youth Symposium](#), Dec. 7-9, in Chicago. Of the 7,800-plus youths who

U.S. News & World Report recently published its list of "10 Retailers Gaining Strength from the Recession," and Springfield's O'Reilly Automotive Inc. was among them. The magazine says that O'Reilly offers products that appeal to people looking to save money, and it has enough diversity to not be impaired by poor performance in any one sector. [Read more...](#)

Kirkwood Firm Awarded \$34.6M Air Force Contract

Lapoint-Blasé Industries Inc. has been awarded a \$34.6 million contract from the U.S. Air Force to provide portable Doppler radars for tracking weather systems. The contract is the privately-held, Kirkwood-based company's largest military contract to date. Lapoint-Blasé is the holding company for EWR Weather Radar. [Read more...](#)

150 New Jobs at Arnold Walmart

The newly renovated Walmart store in Arnold reopened last week, adding 150 jobs to the area as part of the company's plan to expand and update stores in the St. Louis area. In combination with the reopening, the Walmart Foundation will award \$9,000 in grants to community organizations. [Read more...](#)

SBA Launches New Online Training Course: Winning Federal Contracts – A Guide for Women Entrepreneurs

Women who own small businesses will be able to use a new online U.S. Small Business

[Division of Tourism](#)

[Missouri Development Finance Board](#)

[Missouri Community Betterment](#)

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

[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 \(SBTDC\) {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](#)

Brookfield Looking to Polish "Diamond in the Rough" through DREAM Initiative

Brookfield residents didn't like what they saw in the deteriorating condition of the city's face – its historic downtown. But where they once saw deterioration to one of its greatest assets, they now see signs of opportunity and a chance to perform a facelift to its "diamond in the rough." The town has been bestowed Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) designation. [Read more...](#)

California DREAMing of Revitalized Downtown

For many small communities, the downtown area can be the focal point for many community-wide events. Many small communities are battling the decline of their downtown areas. California is no different. However, city officials there are hoping to reverse this trend and make California's downtown once again the focal point of the community, via the DREAM (Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri) Initiative. [Read more...](#)

More DREAM Community Features to Come Next Week!

participated in the program statewide, over 1,000 of these were in St. Louis County. Participating county-area employers included engineering, health care, green construction and others. [Read more...](#)

DWD Launches New Job Search Seminar at Fenton Center

With an e-mail blast to the St. Louis County automotive sector's Unemployment Insurance recipients and other outreach strategies, DWD announced a new seminar being held for area job seekers at the Regional Collaboration Center in Fenton. ["Finding a Job: It All Starts with You!"](#) teaches effective techniques for developing a plan of action, networking, résumé and interview preparation, and provides an overview of the many resources available at the center. The next available course is Thursday, October 29, from 1-3 p.m. Call 636-305-2030 to register or sign up by [e-mail](#).

Administration (SBA) training course to learn how to identify and take advantage of federal contracting opportunities. The free training course, *"Winning Federal Contracts: A Guide for Women Entrepreneurs,"* is part of an ongoing government-wide initiative to promote opportunities for women-owned businesses in the area of government contracting. [Read more...](#)

[Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)



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Questions or Comments?
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GLOBAL NEWS

Missouri Companies Invited to Exhibit at HOSPEX Japan – Nov. 11-13



HOSPEX Japan - "Japan's largest and most comprehensive exhibition of facilities and equipment for the medical and welfare institutes" - held annually in conjunction with the Conference of Healthcare Engineering Association of Japan, will mark its 34th round this year. During the exhibition, about 35,000 industry participants and 200 exhibitor companies will come together to present new products, technologies, and services, as well as to actively exchange information and hold business meetings.

HOSPEX Japan, to be held November 11-13 at Tokyo Big Sight, is a comprehensive exhibition including hospital-based facilities, equipment and engineering resources; health and medical treatment information systems; and healthcare and welfare services and support systems. The state of Missouri's Japan Investment and Trade Office is offering Missouri companies the opportunity to exhibit during HOSPEX Japan 2009. To learn more about this event visit the [HOSPEX](#) website or contact [Krista Zurkamer](#) today for more information about this unique opportunity. [Read more...](#)

Reliv Expands Operations into Indonesia

Chesterfield, Mo.-based Reliv International, Inc. has announced the opening of business in Indonesia. The company's first product to be sold in Indonesia will be Innergize, a sports drink, with more products being added in the near future. The nutritional supplements company now conducts business in 15 countries, including the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Singapore. [Read more...](#)



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