

Missouri

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June, July, August

[Outstanding Missouri Women Traveling History](#)

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

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[Missouri Main Street Conference: Get Plugged In...Downtown](#)

September 9 - 11, 2009

[Governor's Conference on Economic Development](#)

September 17 - 18, 2009

["Economic Development Marketing and Attraction"](#)

July 10, 2009

MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

DED Offers Monthly Webinar Series: July 14 - Recovery Zone Bonds



The Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) has created new bond program opportunities for cities and counties. Gilmore and Bell experts will discuss the two types of bonds, eligible activities, who can

apply, and more during a July 14th webinar from 1-3 p.m. Plan to attend this educational webinar to learn more about these bond opportunities. The webinar is free of charge to the first 250 registrants. [Register](#) here and receive call-in details for the Recovery Zone Bonds webinar. [Submit suggestions](#) for future webinar topics.

MEDC Offers IEDC Course: "Economic Development Marketing and Attraction"

The Missouri Economic Development Council (MEDC) is sponsoring the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) course, "Economic Development Marketing and Attraction," September 17-18, at the Crowne Plaza St. Louis Downtown Hotel. It is important for



you to register through the [MEDC web site](#) in order to take advantage of the reduced membership fee that IEDC offers to the host organization. There are some "early registration" cost savings available through August 6. [Read more...](#)

AmerenUE Launches "Clean Slate" Utility Assistance Program for Low-income Customers



AmerenUE announced this week a \$3 million program to give needy customers a fresh start in managing their utility bills. "Clean Slate" will help qualified customers pay off past-due utility bills, beginning with

low-income elderly and low-income disabled applicants. Active qualified UE customers will be asked to pay 10 percent of their delinquent bill to qualify for Clean Slate assistance. [Read more...](#)

Grafton Ferry Reopens after Flood Repairs

The Grafton Ferry, which connects St. Charles County to Grafton, Ill., has reopened after six months of dredging to remove silt from last year's floods. The original ferry route has been restored with assistance of a federal grant administered through the Missouri Department of Economic Development. [Read more...](#)



Dance St. Louis Awarded Grant to Build Community Dance Centers



The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation has awarded a \$120,000 grant to Dance St. Louis to be used for a pilot program focused on building a national network of new

community dance-presenting venues. Dance St. Louis, along with similar groups in Cleveland and Philadelphia, will each select a site in their state for dance companies to tour with the hope of bringing dance to other communities. [Read more...](#)

FOCUS ON MISSOURI

Gov. Nixon Initiates Public-private Partnership in Effort to Bring Broadband to all Corners of Missouri



Citing the pressing need for Missouri citizens and businesses to access information and compete in markets around the globe, Gov. Jay Nixon this week announced the state's efforts to recruit businesses and organizations as cooperative partners in a competition for funding that would begin to deliver broadband internet access throughout Missouri. The deadline for notice of interest is July 13. [Read more...](#)

DED Invites Missourians to Nominate Exceptional Individuals or Organizations for 2010 Arts Awards

The Missouri Arts Council (MAC), a division of the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED), is seeking nominations for the 2010 Missouri Arts Awards. Categories for the awards include arts education, arts organization, creative community, individual artist, arts leadership, and philanthropy. [Read more...](#)



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](#)

PAST ISSUES

[Missouri Focus](#)

[July 2, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus](#)

[June 26, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus](#)

[June 19, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus](#)

[June 12, 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](#)

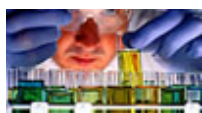
[MERIC](#)

[Division of Tourism](#)

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Gateway Skills 2008



As the economy continues to transition from an asset-based to an intangible asset-based system, copyrights, patents, branding, innovation, and knowledge are valued over more tangible assets such as stock or equipment. By 2016, the four core areas within the Gateway Skills umbrella (science, math, technology, and engineering)

will all experience job growth between 12.7 percent and 19.9 percent in Missouri, much higher than the 5.9 percent state growth in the same time period. However, Missouri is not keeping pace with the national average in producing college graduates with these skills. [Read more...](#)

Information Technology Services

Information Technology (IT) services companies provide a key business function in today's knowledge economy. Much more than setting up computers and other hardware, these firms help businesses better use information in all aspects of company operations. Missouri is home to 3,250 IT service firms that employ just over 38,100 workers. In 2008, IT service businesses represented 3.8 percent of new business formations in the state. [Read more...](#)



FOCUS ON COMMUNITY

Stretching Your Vacation Dollars: Missouri's Lake of the Ozarks

Missouri's renown Lake of the Ozarks vacation and recreation area was recently featured on the *Missouri Economy Today* television show. Watch an interview with Tim Jacobsen, Executive Director of the Lake of the Ozarks Convention and Visitor Bureau, and learn more about the wide variety of

FOCUS ON WORKFORCE

DWD Hires New Workers With Stimulus Funds

Missouri's job training agency is doing its part to achieve the job creation goals of the federal stimulus legislation and Governor Nixon's Show Me Jobs initiative. Effective July 1, the first wave of temporary workers hired, using funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, began working at Career Centers across the

FOCUS ON BUSINESS

St. Charles County Incubator Announces New Tenants, Expansions and Graduations

The Economic Development Center (EDC) of St. Charles County small business incubator has announced three new tenants, two business expansions, and two graduations from the EDC incubator program. The EDC recently offered a

family-oriented activities offered right here in our own back yard. [Read more...](#) (Scroll down to "Missouri's Lake of the Ozarks")

Webb City Begins DREAM Process

About 40 Webb City residents attended a meeting last week to discuss the vision for the city's Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance (DREAM) Initiative. Bookstores, coffee shops, a bakery, comfortable places to meet and restoration of the city's historic buildings are all being considered as citizens continue to meet to draw up guidelines and outline a vision for the downtown area. [Read more...](#)

St. Charles County Offers Closing Cost Incentive for New Home Purchases

The "Welcome Home Incentive Program" is giving a closing cost incentive of \$1,000 to first-time home buyers and new residents planning to buy a newly constructed home in St. Charles County. Greg Prestemon, St. Charles County Economic Development Center (EDC) President said, "As part of our broader economic solutions campaign, the Welcome Home Incentive Program is designed to help attract new residents, sell new homes, and impact local jobs in St. Charles County." [Read more...](#)

state. The additional staff will help centers deal with the increase in customer demand for career assistance services, says Gilbert Hake, Deputy Program Administrator of Career Center Services for DWD. The workers will provide job search assistance to unemployed workers, with special emphasis on serving Unemployment Insurance recipients. A second wave of workers will start July 16, for a projected total of 60 additional workers. The state estimates approximately 60,000 job seekers will be served each month. These new employees will also provide assistance to Missouri businesses to hire qualified workers. DWD cited the hiring of the additional workers as an innovative service strategy in the State Workforce Plan recently submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor.

DWD Issues Green Jobs Report

Calling green jobs "an increasingly prevalent topic in the public and in the workforce system that is having a strong impact on how we provide assistance to our customers," DWD Director Julie Gibson announced the release of a new report, "[Green: Jobs, Industries, Economy - How Green Jobs are Connected to Workforce Development.](#)" The report was developed by DWD Policy Coordinator Judy McQuitty to provide workforce system policymakers and staff with information on the legislation, policies and application of Green Jobs in Missouri Career Center services.

\$5,000 small business grant to cover a year's office rent and training for new start-up or home-based businesses. [Read more...](#)

SBA's Patriot Express Loan Delivers \$315M to 3,750 Vets, Military Community

In just two year's time, the U.S. Small Business Administration's Patriot Express Pilot Loan Initiative has supported more than \$315 million in loans to more than 3,750 veterans and their spouses who are using the SBA-guaranteed funds to establish and expand their small businesses. [Read more...](#)

St. Louis Researchers Launch Algae Research Programs

Researchers at two centers in St. Louis are gearing up to launch five-year research programs on algae, backed by U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) grants. The Donald Danforth Plant Science Center received \$15 million and Washington University \$20 million from the DOE's fund for Energy Frontier Research Centers. A total of 46 centers were funded from a pool of some 260 applications. [Read more...](#)

Monsanto Partners with Dole to Improve Vegetables

Creve Coeur-based Monsanto Co. has entered into an agreement with California-based Dole Fresh Vegetables Inc. to develop better vegetable products including broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce and spinach. The collaboration will focus on improving the nutrition, flavor, color, texture, taste and aroma of vegetables. [Read more...](#)

[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 \(SBTDC\) - {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](#)

Monsanto Corn Products Gain Backing from European Regulators



The European Food Safety Authority has issued a favorable scientific opinion on Monsanto's Roundup Ready 2 corn product and has reaffirmed the safety of its insect-protected corn trait. Regulators confirmed that Monsanto's YieldGard

Insect-Protected Corn is safe for cultivation, animal feed and human consumption. [Read more...](#)

St. Louis Firm Expands Asia Presence

St. Louis-based Certara, which was formed when Tripos International acquired Pharsight Corp. last November, has named Taiwan-based Tri-I Biotech Inc. as its distributor for China and Taiwan as Certara seeks to expand its Asia presence. Certara specializes in software and scientific services for clinical drug development, as well as assisting life science researchers to improve the efficiency of molecular discovery. [Read more...](#)



China Plans Seven Wind Power Bases by 2020



Shi Pengfei, vice-president of the Chinese Wind Energy Association, announced last week that China plans to build seven wind power bases with a minimum capacity of 10 gigawatts (gW) each by 2020. The seven bases will have a combined capacity of nearly 120 gW, and the investment required for construction is approximately \$1 trillion. [Read more...](#)

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