



MEDP'S NewsFlash

JULY 2010

www.macoupinpartners.com

Save the Date - Carlinville Area Hospital Grand Opening Sunday, July 25



Macoupin County Circuit Clerk Mike Mathis presents a check to the Mayor's Council Facilitator and MEDP Executive Director Shari Albrecht on behalf of the former Mayor's Association.

Mayor's Council Receives \$800 donation

Macoupin County Mayor's Council facilitated by Macoupin Economic Development Partnership hosted its first Legislative Reception on Tuesday, June 22. Directed by Palmyra Mayor Brad Bacon and Modesto Mayor Tom Thompson, the group gathered at Terry Park Golf Course in Palmyra.

Macoupin County Circuit Clerk Mike Mathis surprised the council with a check in the amount of \$817.74. The gifted funds came from a similar Mayor's Association Mathis

had spearheaded while serving as the mayor of Gillespie. The group has since disbanded with no allocation of the collected dues that remained in its account.

County officials also in attendance included State's Attorney Vince Moreth, County Board Member Judy Bacon, Sheriff Don Albrecht, County Board Chairman Andy Manar, Circuit Judge Ken Deihl and Associate Judge Josh Meyer.

The evening began with net-
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Illinois Transportation Secretary Announces Availability of About \$80 Million in Federal Funds for Streetscape, Trails and Beautification Projects

Application Process Opens for Federally Funded Enhancement Projects, Expected to Create/Sustain More Than 800 jobs

SPRINGFIELD - Illinois Transportation Secretary Gary Hannig announced today that about \$80 million in federal funds will be awarded to eligible communities for local projects that expand travel choices and improve the transportation experience in Illinois. The funding, through the 2010 Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP), is expected to create or sustain approximately 870 future jobs in Illinois. The program pro-
ITEP, continued on page 4

County Audit Available on Website

Audit Shows County's Budget is Balanced Following Mine Closures

County News: JUNE 24, 2010
CARLINVILLE -- The audit for the fiscal year that ended August 31, 2009 shows that the Macoupin County government's budget recovery plan following the closure of two coal mines and loss of sales tax revenue has successfully eliminated its temporary spending deficit. Summary pages from Macoupin County's Fiscal

Year 2008-2009 Audit are now available for viewing on the official government website of Macoupin County: www.macoupincountyil.gov.

"We have an open process and our continued goal is to utilize our website as a tool to make sure the public can see how the County government spends money," said Board Chairman
Audit, continued on page 2

IRS Requests Public Input on Expanded Information Reporting Requirement

The Internal Revenue Service invited public comment on how to most effectively carry out a law change that, starting in 2012, will require businesses to report a wider range of payments to contractors, vendors and others, usually on Form 1099. These comments will help the IRS issue guidance that implements this provision in a manner that minimizes burden and avoids duplicate reporting.

Under a proposed regulation, many business purchases made with credit or debit cards would be exempt from the new reporting requirement because they are already reported by banks and other payment processors. The IRS seeks comments on additional circumstances in which duplicate reporting might otherwise occur and on rules that would prevent such duplicate reporting. The change, enacted

in March but not effective until 2012, expanded existing reporting requirements to include a business's payments related to goods and other property, and payments to most corporations. With some exceptions, payments to corporations are currently exempt from this requirement.

There are two ways to submit comments. Email comments to: Notice.Comments@irscounsel.treas.gov. Include "Notice 2010-51" in the subject line. Comments may also be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, CC:PA:LPD:PR (Notice 2010-51), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. The deadline is Sept. 29, 2010. Further details are in Notice 2010-51, posted today on IRS.gov.

US Small Business Administration Q&A For Vets

The US Small Business Administration will host a Q&A Session for Vets on Thursday, September 2, 2010 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Illinois WorkNet Office at 1300 S. 9th Street in Springfield.

This session will provide veterans interested in starting or expanding a small business the opportunity to meet with SBA and SCORE counselors who can advise you in areas such as business planning, financing and government contracting. For more information, contact Stephanie Schatz at (217) 793-5020 x114 or Stephanie.Schatz@sba.gov.

Mayor's, cont. from page 1

working and golf cart tours of Terry Park followed by opening remarks from Shari Albrecht, Executive Director of MEDP. The mayors then held a brief discussion on current and recently completed projects in their areas.

Guest speakers Senator Deanna Demuzio and Representative Betsy Hannig informed the council of ongoing and upcoming road construction and other local improvement projects and discussed available project

funding.

The Macoupin County Mayor's Council is open to any interested Macoupin County Mayor. Their next meeting will take place August 25 at the Benld Civic Center and will function as a workshop. The Community Funding Forum Workshop is open to community groups, non-profits, elected or appointed board members or any interested citizens. For more information visit the MEDP website at www.macoupinpartners.com.

Angel Investment Tax Credit Signed Into Law

On Thursday, June 24, 2010 Governor Pat Quinn signed a bill into law that will encourage investment into Illinois' businesses. Senate Bill 2093 will create the Angel Investment Tax Credit to support direct investment by Illinois entrepreneurs and start-up companies and will double the state's existing New Markets Tax Credit for new investment into small businesses in underserved communities.

The new tax credit encourages investment into innovative Illinois businesses that are working to get off the ground. Under the new law, investors may claim 25 percent of an investment into a qualified Illinois business venture - up to \$2 million in investment for a \$500,000 credit. The program is capped at \$10 million in tax credits, which will drive \$40 million in investment.

The new law doubles the cap on Illinois' existing New Markets Tax Credit program - from \$10 million to \$20 million. The program provides tax credits for new investment into small businesses in low-income communities. The increased cap could generate \$125 million in private investment into Illinois businesses. Illinois began its New Markets Tax Credit last year and exhausted the \$10 million cap within six months.

Community Funding Forum - August 25, 2010 Visit www.macoupinpartners.com for more details!

Audit, cont. from page 1

Andrew Manar. "Accountability is a good thing and it will be our continued goal to shed sunlight on our budget and our process."

Manar said that opening up the budget process to the public has increased accountability for expenditures.

For the 2008-2009 fiscal year, general fund revenue exceeded expenditures by approximately \$117,000.

"We set out to develop a plan to reduce our operating deficit over a two year period due to the loss of sales tax revenues from the closure of the coal mines. By working cooperatively with the county officials, monitoring expenses and instituting efficiencies, we accomplished our goal," said Manar.

Manar noted that sales and use tax receipts in the County have declined approximately \$800,000 since 2005.

"We have made up this loss by finding better ways to operate county government without cutting services," said Manar.

As an example, Manar noted that the Animal Control Department is nearly self sufficient through the aggressive enforcement of fines for those who break the law.

Manar said that in order to maintain the current course, the County Board must continue to take a realistic approach to budgeting. He noted that the County officials continue to work toward maintaining a balanced budget but cutting unnecessary expenditures where possible and closely monitoring revenues.

The County Board's Finance Committee will begin meeting at the end of June to begin crafting next year's budget. All meetings are posted on the County's website and open to the public. The website also contains detailed budget charts, appropriation resolutions, and audit information from past fiscal years.

The fiscal year 2008-2009 audit was performed by Scheffel & Company, P.C.

EPA Delays Enforcement of Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule for Certification & Training Portion of the Program

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced it will delay enforcement of the new Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Program (RRP) regulations. The Agency issued a memorandum providing renovation firms and workers additional time to obtain necessary training and certifications to comply with its new lead paint rules.

EPA announced it will not fine renovation workers if he or she enrolls in or applies to enroll in a certified renovator class by September 30, 2010, and completes training by December 31, 2010. In addition, EPA will not take enforcement action for violations of the Lead RRP rule's firm certification requirement until October 1, 2010. The June 18 EPA memo regarding enforcement of the rule is

online at: http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/giles_RRP_memo.pdf.

The Lead RRP rule took full effect April 22, 2010. The rule applies to paid contractors working in pre-1978 housing, and child-occupied facilities (e.g., schools and day-care centers) with lead-based paint. The current rules require construction firms and individual workers who perform renovations, repairs and/or painting projects in regulated facilities to comply with federal (TSCA Section 402(c)(3)) accreditation, training, certification, lead safe work practice, and recordkeeping requirements. Only enforcement of the certification requirements are being delayed; any failure to follow lead safe work processes would trigger an immediate violation.

Macoupin

Farmer's Markets

Staunton, 8 am-12 pm

Every Saturday, May-Oct.

Location: Union & Mill Street

For info call: 618-635-8638

stauntonfarmersmarket@live.com

Virden, 4-7 pm

Friday Evenings, May - Oct

1240 N. Springfield St.

217-227-3256

No charge for vendors

Brighton, 4-7 pm

Schneider Park, Every Wed.

July 7- Labor Day

\$5 Vendor Fee

618-372-8860

Carlinville

June - ?

Wednesday afternoons 4-7 pm

Saturday mornings 7:30-10:30

West Main St.,

Rathgeb's empty lot

Info 217-854-2815 or

217-854-9260

**Shop Your Hometown First
Shop Your County Second**

MEDP Member CUSD #1 Awarded \$828,000 from ISBE for Technology

"All of us associated with the Carlinville educational community are working hard to transition these grant dollars into productive services for our students. For example, the district is purchasing technology that students will be able to use in the classroom. Furthermore, interactive whiteboards are being installed in all of the core academic classrooms. Plus, in order to be able to successfully implement this technology, Carlinville CUSD #1 teachers are receiving training in the use of technology throughout the summer. Finally, for all of us associated with the district, our main goal remains preparing our young people for the challenges they will face in their future," said MEDP member and Superintendent Mike Kelly.

MEDP Member Benefits

Friend - \$50+

- Business listing
- Business referrals
- Receive publications and event invitations
- Attend board meeting and serve on committees
- Receive MEDP's NewsFlash newsletter
- Window decal

Bronze - \$250+

- All of the above benefits
- Three available board seats, elected position
- Two additional lines with business listing
- One ticket to events, workshops and seminars
- Access to membership contacts
- Networking Opportunities
- Access to membership tools: demographics, business stats, etc.

Silver - \$500+

- All of the above benefits
- Six available board seats, elected position
- Member's link added to website
- One additional ticket to events, workshops and seminars
- Inclusion in business spotlight section of newsletter
- Free use of meeting space

Gold - \$1,500+

- All of the above benefits
- Board seat
- Logo added to website
- One additional ticket to events, workshops and seminars
- Business Recognition at events
- Access to network of municipalities
- Free posting of open positions on website

Platinum - \$3,000+

- All of the above benefits
- Three lines, link and logo in display ad form on website
- VIP seating at events

To join today, go to www.macoupinpartners.com,
click on About MEDP and select Join Us.



Save the Date: Carlinville Area Hospital Grand Opening Ceremony

Carlinville Area Hospital New Facility Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Sunday, July 25, 2010.

- Logo Unveiling
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Self-Guided Tours
- Donor Recognition Wall
- Refreshments

Please reserve main parking lot for those that need close parking. Other parking available at the Carlinville Plaza and guests will be transported to and from the event.

20377 North Broad Street, Carlinville, IL
Everyone is Welcome

Small Business Jobs Tax Credit Information

The Illinois Small Business Job Creation Tax Credit is a one year credit that will help create up to 20,000 new jobs. This new law creates a \$2,500 tax credit (that can be carried forward) on withholding tax for employers with 50 or fewer total employees who hire new, full-time Illinois employees during the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2010.

Calculation of the net increase in the number of Illinois employees is based on the employer's number of Illinois employees as of June 30, 2010. The credit is available to qualifying employers for each new, full-time Illinois job created and sustained for at least one year. It has a cap of \$50 million on the total amount of credits issued. To qualify, a job must pay at least \$25,000 per year.

The credits are available on a first-come, first-served, basis through an online application which is available at: jobstaxcredit.illinois.gov/. For more information, check out the Jobs Tax Credit website or call the IEN Business Information Center at (800) 252-2923.

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vides federal funds to improve the quality of life in Illinois by promoting alternative transportation, such as bike and hike trails, streetscape improvements and beautification, and preservation of transportation resources.

"We are excited to announce the start of the ITEP application process," said Hannig. "This is a great opportunity for communities to apply for federal funding specifically earmarked for streetscape and beautification projects to expand travel choices such as bike and hike trails throughout the state."

A new on-line application process is available for eligible project sponsors interested in applying for project funding through ITEP. The deadline to submit on-line applications is Tuesday, August 31, 2010. On-line applicants also will be required to submit a paper copy and required attachments to IDOT within three working days of their on-line submittal. "We have seen first-hand the positive difference this federal

funding has made in communities statewide, and we are confident the new on-line application option will make the process easier and more efficient," Hannig said.

ITEP provides federal funds to promote sustainable and livable communities, develop transportation alternatives, and preserve visual and cultural resources. The funds are awarded competitively and any local or state government with taxing authority is eligible to apply for and sponsor an enhancement project. Local matching funds are required and work must begin on the projects within three years.

In December 2009, Governor Quinn announced funding for 68 transportation projects totaling \$22 million through ITEP. ITEP is funded under a provision of SAFETEA-LU, the federal surface transportation funding bill.

For more information about ITEP or to access the on-line application, please visit the IDOT website at www.dot.il.gov/opp/itep.html.

Calendar of Events

- July 20: MEDP BOD Mtg. 6 pm LCCC Bldg.
- July 22: MEDP will attend Carlinville Rotary
- July 25: Carlinville Area Hospital Grand Opening 3 pm
- August 25: Community Funding Forum, Benld Civic Center 5:30-8 pm
- September 1 Build Macoupin County - Benld, IL public brainstorming meeting, Benld Civic Center, 6:30 pm



MEDP'S NewsFlash

For more information about Macoupin Economic Development Partnership or newsletter submissions

contact:

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