



# MEDP'S NewsFlash

SEPTEMBER 2011

[www.macoupinpartners.com](http://www.macoupinpartners.com)

## Forum Delivers Small Business/Community Support

Community leaders, civic organizations, business leaders, and citizens came together for a Community Funding Forum on August 31 at the Benld Civic Center to interact with state, federal and local representatives, network strategies with other community leaders and gain financing tools for local projects and small business.

Macoupin County Board Chairman, Andy Manar, along with Benld Mayor Jeff Hendricks welcomed participants. Tom Becker of the Illinois Small Business De-

velopment Center was the forum's keynote speaker addressing "Healthy Communities."

"The event and the speaker were really good," said Brighton Mayor Wayne Schafer. "We really picked up on utilizing foundations for specific funding or projects. I also think it is important what he (Becker) said about planning. You do need to know what you want to do and where you want to go as a community."

Participating agencies included Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Small

Business Administration, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, SIUE Small Business Development Center, West Central Development Council/Macoupin Job Center, First National Bank, United Community Bank, Frank Bertetti Benld Public Library, Illinois Art Council, PGAV Planners, Macoupin County, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and Ameren.

"The forum was very beneficial. I was able to talk to

representatives from DNR and IL EPA about our lake," said Bunker Hill Mayor Ray Chapman. "I also spoke with Ameren about doing an energy efficiency audit of our municipal building."

"I learned some things, made contacts and made connections to hopefully accomplish some projects for the City. It was very informative," said Benld Mayor Jeff Hendricks.

"I thought it was great to be able to talk directly to the agencies. I had many questions; would like to know  
**Forum, continued on page 5**



**It is official...The Macoupin County Business Park has a sign!!!**

## Shipman Elevator and CHS Inc. Explore Business Partnership

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MINN, August 29, 2011 – CHS Inc., Fortune 100 energy, grains and foods company, and Shipman Elevator Company, (MEDP Member) have signed a letter of understanding to explore a formal business partnership. If approved by the membership of both companies, the two would combine to enhance agricultural services to producers and consumers within the southwestern Illinois trade territory now served by Shipman.

A proposed business agreement will be discussed at Shipman member meetings and will be voted upon by its stockholders in October.

According to Bart Baker, Shipman general manager, "Enhancing our relationship with CHS offers Shipman Elevator Company and its producer/owners an opportunity to become part of a global company, while remaining focused on serving the needs of our members."

**SEC, continued on page 4**

## County Receives \$630,000 in Federal Funding to Make Upgrades to Brighton-Bunker Hill Road

*The \$700,000 project to improve the Fosterburg Road intersection will be part of a five-phase project to make upgrades to Brighton-Bunker Hill Road*

Carlinville – More than three months ago, Macoupin County applied for a competitive grant with the Illinois Department of Transportation, seeking funding for a \$700,000 project to improve safety standards at the intersection of Fosterburg Road and Brighton-Bunker Hill Road in southwestern Macoupin County. The County was recently informed that its request to obtain 90% of the funding necessary to complete the \$700,000 project was approved.

The County applied for the federal funding through the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) / High Risk Rural Roads Program (HRRRP). A major goal of the HSIP is seek out projects that work to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes. One of the specific emphasis areas within the HSIP relates to intersection projects. A stipulation of receiving the federal funds through

IDOT allows the County up to 90% of the project cost (which in this case is \$630,000), leaving only the remaining 10% to be produced from local funds. "For the County to be able to access more than \$2.5 million in federal funding toward this large project is a sizeable achievement in itself," said County Board Chairman Andy Manar. "Brighton-Bunker Hill Road is only going to become more heavily travelled in the years to come, so it is important that, with this funding, we are addressing the high-priority safety needs like the Fosterburg Road intersection as soon as possible."

In 2006, Macoupin County received \$2 million in federal funding from the High Priority Project Program (HPPP) with the assistance of U.S. Senator Dick Durbin which will be utilized to make improvements to a mile-long stretch of Brighton-Bunker Hill Road. Combined with the proposed Fosterburg

Road intersection project, the approximate \$2.63 million in improvements will represent one phase of a five-phase project to completely upgrade Brighton-Bunker Hill Road. It is estimated that construction on the project will begin in early 2013.

County Engineer Tom Reinhart said that the completion of I-255 up to Fosterburg Road in northern Madison County has brought on an increase in truck traffic on the Brighton-Bunker Hill Road. Enhancing the overall condition and safety of the highly traveled road itself is a goal over the long run. Reinhart noted that the entire five-phase project to upgrade Brighton-Bunker Hill Road is a \$20 million project.

Manar said that the County Board is continuing to identify additional funding sources that will assist in bringing the large-scale project closer to completion.

## MEDP Welcomes NEW Members

AUGUST

City of Carlinville

LaVora Electric  
Carlinville, IL

Goldasich Audo Architects  
Springfield, IL

and potential future changes in legislation at the state and federal levels that will have a direct impact on Illinois local governments. The final fall session will be December 15th discussing "GIS/GEOSPATIAL." Geographic Information System (GIS) are powerful tools, with a wide variety of uses for county governments. During this tele-institute participants will learn how GIS mapping software can be utilized to increase the efficiency of government operations.

Spring sessions include: "Privatization/Intergovernmental Agreements," on January 19; "The Importance of Broadband for Community Survival and How E-Government is Changing the Way Services are Being Provided," on February 16; "Obstacles and Opportunities that Special Structure Assessment Present," on March 15; and "Siting and Permitting Wind Farms in Illinois – Lessons Learned from Local Officials," on April 19.

Attendees that are enrolled in the Certified County Officials (CCO) program can receive two hours of general credit for each session they attend. If you are interested in participating in these educational programs or for further information, please contact the Macoupin County Extension office at 217-854-9604. Hope to see you there.

## Local Government Tele-Institutes Series for 2011-2012

The University of Illinois Extension Local Government Information & Education Network (LGIEN) and the Illinois Association of County Board Members and Commissioners (IACBMC) are currently offering a local government education series addressing issues impacting counties and communities in Illinois. The education series is broadcast over a statewide audio-teleconference system through Illinois County Extension offices and other partnering locations. This is an eight part monthly tele-institute series starting in September 2011 and ending in April 2012, the sessions are the third Thurs-

day of each month from 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm.

September 15th's topic will be on the "Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Training." Open, honest and accountable government, the cornerstone of a democracy, can be achieved only through the free and open exchange of information between government and the public. Illinois Attorney General's Office will present training and tools required for implementing this foundational policy at the local level.

During October 20th, attendees will explore "Redistricting: Statewide and National Trends for County Board Resizing."

Recent census data has revealed population and growth shifts away from Illinois requiring a redistricting to reduce the number of Illinois members of the US House of Representatives. As one of the most diverse states, this redistricting presents several challenges. This workshop will review Illinois' shifting demographics and how the redistricting will affect future legislation, county management and the citizens of Illinois.

"Legislative Update," will be the topic for November 17th. Following the State's Veto Session, local government legislative liaisons will discuss recent

## Frontier Webcast Invitation: Digital Marketing Magic Pyramid

Email, social media and search are the cornerstones of the "Digital Marketing Magic Pyramid." Together they can help any company or organization grow their online presence.

Join Frontier Communications as we discuss these building blocks with Lisa Grimm, Mall of America's digital brand manager, and Albert Maruggi, strategic communications consultant.

Attend the live, one-hour Webinar to learn about:

- Driving search ranking with content marketing and customer comments
- Building email lists and satisfying your readers
- Extending email content to social networks
- Leveraging events, notables and news cycles to your advantage
- Google + : The Facebook killer?
- Who should attend?
- Business Owners
- Marketers and Public Relations Managers

- Customer Service Managers
- Sales and Business Development Managers

This complimentary Webinar takes place on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at Noon Eastern, 11 a.m. Central

Space is limited. Register now at [www.frontier.com/digital](http://www.frontier.com/digital)

Presented by:

**Lisa Grimm,**

Digital Brand Manager,  
Mall of America

Lisa bridges the gap between the traditional and digital media divide by developing social media strategy, serving as community manager and developing integrated marketing communications programs for the Mall of America.

**Albert Maruggi**

Founder and President, Provident Partners

Albert is the host and producer of Marketing Edge and a senior fellow at the Society of New Communications Research.



## Looking for Information on Health Care Reporting?

The IRS talks about reporting health insurance coverage on W-2's in this new YouTube video. Watch this and other videos on the IRS YouTube Channel.

### Macoupin Farmer's Markets

**Stanton**, 8 am-12 pm; Every Saturday, May-Oct.

Location: Union & Mill Street

For info call: 618-635-8638; [stantonfarmersmarket@live.com](mailto:stantonfarmersmarket@live.com)

**Bunker Hill**, 4:30 - 7pm; Monday evenings

Fast Stop Parking Lot, Hwy 159

No charge for vendors; Info: 618-610-5613

**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**

### First National Bank completes remodeling on former Dollar General building

First National Bank in Stanton, a MEDP member, recently remodeled the former Dollar General building, across the street from the main facility. Construction on the 5500 sq. ft. building is almost complete and will house a 2650 sq. ft. Loan Processing Department, a 2650 sq. ft. modern training facility with seating for 40 and a 900 sq. ft. fireproof record room. The target date to move into the building is next week. FNB has branches in 10 locations, Stanton, Livingston, Benld, Troy, Worden, Holiday Shores, Hamel, Bethalto, Maryville and Mt. Olive. Visit them on the web at [www.fnbstanton.com](http://www.fnbstanton.com).

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“The business opportunity is a strategic move for both companies,” explained John McEnroe, senior vice president, CHS Country Operations division. “And it aligns well with the CHS commitment to return value to member-owners.”

Founded in 1919, Shipman Elevator Company ([www.shipmanelevator.com](http://www.shipmanelevator.com)) provides agronomy, grain and energy products and services from Illinois locations in Macoupin, Jersey, and Bond Counties. Its mission is to be a sustainable, progressive agribusiness, committed to meeting customer needs and exceeding customer expectations.

CHS Inc. ([www.chsinc.com](http://www.chsinc.com)) is a diversified energy, grains

and foods company committed to providing the essential resources that enrich lives around the world. A Fortune 100 company, CHS is owned by farmers, ranchers and cooperatives, along with thousands of preferred stockholders across the United States. CHS supplies energy, crop nutrients, grain, livestock feed, food and food ingredients, along with business solutions including insurance, financial and risk management services. The Company operates petroleum refineries/pipelines and manufactures, markets and distributes Cenex® brand refined fuels, lubricants, propane and renewable energy products. CHS is listed on the NASDAQ at CHSCP.



*MEDP Executive Director Shari Albrecht along with Macoupin County Board Chairman Andy Manar present Sievers Truck Service Owner Herb Sievers and his children Missy Griffith and Mark Sievers with a check for \$5,000 of BMC Grant Funds.*

## Sievers Truck Service Awarded BMC Grant

Sievers Truck Service located just outside of Staunton city limits, recently was approved and awarded Build Macoupin County Energy Efficiency Grant funds. The grant, announced in January, was made available to assist businesses and commercial building owners located in Macoupin County to make needed improvements to their structures. Macoupin Economic Development Partnership administers the grant; focusing on both reduction of energy consumption and job creation.

MEDP has identified energy costs as a major factor in business retention in Macoupin County. Grantees were eligible to receive up to 100% of the remaining project costs once all qualifications and guidelines had been met and approved. The Macoupin County program works in conjunction with Ameren Illinois' Act on Energy program.

Sievers Truck Service was awarded \$5,000 for their lighting replacement from

Build Macoupin County. Other qualifying projects included HVAC, refrigeration upgrades and replacement of building window and doors. Businesses must be located in MEDP member communities as of October 15, 2010 or unincorporated Macoupin County.

“Sievers Truck Service is a great asset to our County. In these economic times, we know small businesses need our support and the County actively looks for ways to help. This BMC Grant Program lowers energy costs for our employers, making it easier to pass the savings onto their clientele,” said Macoupin County Board Chairman Andy Manar.

For more information contact:

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[shari@macoupinpartners.com](mailto:shari@macoupinpartners.com)



**MEDP's Prairie Farms Sponsored the 2011 Butter Cow at the Illinois State Fair.**

**View more MEDP photos click on our Flickr Photostream at [macoupinpartners.com](http://macoupinpartners.com)**

**Forum**, continued from page 1 more from PGAV Planners and SBA and how they can help our start-up businesses in Staunton,” said Staunton Mayor Craig Neuhaus.

The forum was sponsored by Macoupin Economic Development Partnership and the Macoupin Mayor’s Council. It is the second educational workshop to be sponsored by the Mayor’s Council, a group formed and facilitated by MEDP. The council meets four times a year: two networking events, a legislative reception and an educational workshop.

MEDP’s mission is to drive economic growth in the county by conducting and sponsoring activities that help existing businesses prosper and grow, attract new businesses, and promote responsible development. To learn more about MEDP, visit [www.macoupinpartners.com](http://www.macoupinpartners.com).



*August 31 marks the official start of demolition to the buildings damaged by the tornado in Gillespie. The City received funding through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity CDAP grant. JP Burns Excavating of Plainview won the bid. MEDP joins City officials, County officials, Gillespie business representatives for the last photo before tear down.*



*Benld City Alderman Peyton Bernot speaks with IL EPA reps Amy Walkenbach and Elmo Dowd at the Funding Forum.*

*First MEDP Quarterly Full Membership Meeting at Prairie Farms September 20. Space is Limited - Please RSVP: [courtney@macoupinpartners.com](mailto:courtney@macoupinpartners.com)*

## Calendar of Events

- Sept. 11: Macoupin County 9/11 Memorial Ceremony 8am First Congregational Church of Bunker Hill
- Sept. 13: Frontier Digital Marketing Webinar
- Sept. 20: MEDP Quarterly Meeting, 6pm Prairie Farms Facility, Carlinville



For more information about Macoupin Economic Development Partnership or newsletter submissions contact:  
[shari@macoupinpartners.com](mailto:shari@macoupinpartners.com)  
[courtney@macoupinpartners.com](mailto:courtney@macoupinpartners.com)