



February 26, 2010

- COMMUNITY
- WORKFORCE
- BUSINESS
- GLOBAL NEWS

- UPCOMING EVENTS**
- Missouri Partnership Marketing Events**
[Schedule of Missouri Partnership Marketing Events](#)
 - January 20 - March 31, 2010
[Making Exporting Easier Webinar Series](#)
 - March 4, 2010
[Southeast Missouri Export Seminar Series](#)
Poplar Bluff, MO
 - March 8 - 13, 2010
[Medical Trade Mission to India](#)
 - March 16 - 17, 2010
[Greening Missouri Homes Conference](#)
 - March 17 - 18, 2010
[Missouri Main Street Workshops](#)
 - March 18 - 19, 2010
[Economic Development Strategic Planning Training Course](#)
Springfield
 - March 24 - 25, 2010
[InvestMidwest](#)

MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

NMSU's Innovation Center Receives 2010 Innovator Award



For the second consecutive year, Northwest Missouri State University (NMSU) has been selected to represent Missouri as the winner of the Southern Growth Policies Board 2010 Innovator Award. The Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) was chosen from a pool of nominees in the Southern region as an outstanding initiative that helps communities recover from the economic downturn. Dr. Charles McAdams, dean of Northwest's College of Arts and Sciences and co-director of the CIE, said the award is only the beginning of possibilities for the facility, Northwest students and faculty, and CIE tenants, as well as for economic growth in the region. [Read more...](#)

KCI Ranks No. 1 in Nationwide Customer Satisfaction Survey

Kansas City International airport has been ranked first among medium-sized airports in the annual customer-satisfaction survey conducted by J.D. Power and Associates. J.D. Power said KCI is



particularly strong in three factors: airport accessibility, check-in/baggage check, and security check. Other elements in which KCI received the top rating were terminal access and baggage claim access. [Read more...](#)

Lambert-St. Louis Launches Phase II, \$50M Renovation Project



Lambert-St. Louis International Airport is planning to invest \$50 million in renovations to concourses, terminals and ticket counters with Phase II of its major overhaul – "Airport Experience" program. The overhaul will make Lambert more competitive with newer airports as it tries to attract more service and airlines. [Read more...](#)

Missouri Main Street Connection Offers Community Revitalization and Preservation Training for 2010

The Missouri Main Street Connection prepares communities for revitalization and preservation with its 2010 schedule of training sessions. All sessions are available to the public. The Missouri Main Street Connection's [2010 Workshop Calendar](#) offers many opportunities for training and education in the field of community development. [Read more...](#)



Deadline Extended to Apply for 2010 Leadership Missouri Program



The Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry Education Foundation has extended the application deadline to March 1st for the 2010 Leadership Missouri

program. This is a great educational experience to learn about the various industries of Missouri and the challenges and opportunities they face in 2010. Some of the topics include: Manufacturing, Banking and Finance, Healthcare, Education, and Media. The program begins in April and concludes in October. [Read more...](#)

FOCUS ON MISSOURI

Kraft Foods to Add 50 Jobs, Expand Production in Springfield



Kraft Foods Inc. plans to add 50 jobs and expand production over the next six to nine months, including an investment of \$9 million of capital into two new manufacturing lines. Wages for the 50 new jobs created will be above the county average and include a comprehensive benefits package. Kraft Foods Global, Inc., Springfield, has been approved for \$390,050 in tax credits over a five-year period under the Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) program by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). [Read more...](#)

Inc. Magazine Seeks Applications for Fastest-Growing Private Companies – 2010 Inc. 500/5000 Award

Get the attention your company deserves! The Missouri Department of Economic Development is proud to be joining *Inc.* magazine in its search for the fastest-growing private companies in America – the 2010 *Inc.* 500|5000 award. The



Inc. 500|5000 ranks companies by overall revenue growth over a three-year period, bringing national and local acclaim to honorees. Each company honored on the list will be profiled on *Inc.com*, and the top 500 companies will be featured in the September issue of the magazine. The deadline for applications is Friday, April 30. [Read more...](#)

MADE in Missouri State Entrepreneurship Competition Will Highlight New Businesses In Missouri



Calling aspiring business people! The Missouri Alliance for the Development of Entrepreneurship (MADE) is proud to present the 2010 MADE in Missouri State Entrepreneurship Competition, an event that will highlight new and aspiring businesses through a competitive and educational business development process. Registration is open to any potential business owner or current business owner in operation three years or less. There are Youth and Open categories for participation, and entrepreneurs considering going into business for the first time are welcomed. [Read more...](#)

Gov. Nixon Promotes Small Business Loans at Columbia Business

Gov. Nixon recently visited Traditions in Woodworking, a Columbia business benefited by the Missouri small business loan program, to see the effects of the loan program and to encourage other business owners to apply. Chris Heston opened Traditions in Woodworking



15 years ago. His company builds custom-made cabinets, toys and other woodworking products. Heston received a \$25,000 loan through the Missouri Small Business Loan Program in order to expand his business. [Read more...](#)

March 25, 2010
[2010 "Missouri's Energy Future" Conference](#)

April 8, 2010
[Southeast Missouri Export Seminar Series](#)
Portageville, MO

April 18 - 22, 2010
[Heartland Basic E.D. Course](#)
Blue Springs

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

April 21 - 23, 2010
[Missouri Association for Workforce Development \(MAWD\) Conference](#)

June 6 - 8, 2010
[IEDC 2010 Conference: How You Build It: Creating Cutting Edge Developments](#)
Oklahoma City, OK

June 22 - 23, 2010
[AES Compliance Seminar: Complying with the Foreign Trade Regulations](#)

July 25 - 29, 2010
[2010 Summers @ Mizzou. Build-a-Business Camp](#)

July 29 - 30, 2010
[Missouri Environmental Conference](#)

PAST ISSUES

[Missouri Focus](#)
February 19, 2010

[Missouri Focus](#)
February 12, 2010

[Missouri Focus](#)
February 5, 2010

[Missouri Focus](#)



Missouri Industry Trends: Kansas City and Vicinity



This series of industry trend reports uses Local Employment Dynamics (LED) to detail the top industries in each of Missouri's Workforce Investment Areas (WIAs) and the age and gender makeup of the workforce in those top industries. In the Kansas City and Vicinity WIA, the top employing industries were Professional, Scientific, Technical Services and Food Services and Drinking Places. [Read more...](#)

Reminder - 2010 Census Forms Will Begin Arriving in Homes Next Week

In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. Simply answer the 10 short questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. Any personal data you provide is protected and confidential. It is important to fill out your form as the 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like hospitals, job training centers, schools, and emergency services. [Read more...](#)



Department of Economic Development Awards Montgomery County \$2.2M in Supplemental CDBG Disaster Funding

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has announced that a project in an area of Montgomery County affected by weather-related disasters during 2008 has been approved for supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. Montgomery County has been approved for a CDBG in the amount of \$2,250,000 to assist in the construction of a new Highway 19 overpass.

[Read more...](#)

DED Awards Youth Opportunities Tax Credits to two St. Louis Service Organizations

Children's Home Society of Missouri and Kids in the Middle (KITM), both of St. Louis, have been approved for Youth Opportunities Program (YOP) tax credits totaling \$234,373 from the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). [Read more...](#)



Governor Nixon Visits "Show-Me Heroes" Business

Gov. Nixon visited two southwest Missouri businesses on Feb. 24 to laud the companies' participation in the "[Show-Me Heroes](#)" initiative that encourages the hiring of Missouri veterans. Noting the "sacrifices made by the men and women of our Armed Services to keep our families safe and secure," Nixon spoke at Schreiber Foods in Carthage and Ozarks Coca-Cola/Dr. Pepper Bottling Company in Springfield, thanking them for taking the Show-Me Heroes pledge. Program director Lt. Col. Alan Rohlfing also spoke about the ease of signing up for the program, which currently has over 160 businesses signed up.

[Read more...](#)

Southwest Missouri to Receive \$40K Grant to Study Green Jobs

The *Springfield News-Leader* recently reported that a southwest Missouri agency will receive a \$40,000 grant from the



JVIC Tenant Receives Federal Funds for Research Project

With the assistance of National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Brewer Science in Springfield will partner with an Oklahoma firm on a \$13.9 million research project to develop high-quality, low-cost carbon nanotube inks that can be used in touch screens, LED lighting and solar panels. Brewer is located in the Jordan Valley Innovation Center (JVIC) and will hire six new positions to assist with the project. [Read more...](#)

Centene to Acquire Carolina Crescent Health Plan

St. Louis-based Centene Corp. has announced plans to acquire Carolina Crescent Health Plan and expand its South Carolina Medicaid enrollment. The St. Louis health insurer said last week that its South Carolina subsidiary, Absolute Total Care, signed an agreement to acquire the nonprofit Carolina

[January 29, 2010](#)

DED PRESS RELEASES

QUICK LINKS

[Dept. of Economic Development](#)

[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 Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board](#)

[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](#)

[Missouri Chamber of Commerce](#)

**City of Meadville
Awarded \$500,000 CDBG
for Water System
Improvement Project**

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has announced that the city of Meadville has been approved for a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a water system improvement project. The construction project will involve updating the current water plant and replacing failing water lines. [Read more...](#)

**DED Awards \$350,000 in
Neighborhood Assistance
Program Tax Credits to
Higginsville Non-profit
Organization**

Higginsville's Bright Futures Daycare and Preschool has been approved for \$350,000 in Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). Donations received as part of this capital campaign will be directed to the construction of a new daycare facility in downtown Higginsville. [Read more...](#)

federal stimulus act to conduct research among businesses on how best to build the skills of the area's workforce. The funds will support a yearlong study by the Ozarks Regional Economic Partnership, in conjunction with the Ozark Region Workforce Investment Board. The study will begin next month. [Read more...](#)

**Fenton Center Trains
Laid-Off Workers on
Keys to Reemployment**

On Feb. 25, laid-off workers at the Regional Collaboration Center in Fenton received intensive training on taking charge of their career search. The Division of Workforce Development (DWD) and Coaching Concepts, Inc. presented "[Finding a Job: It All Starts With You!](#)," which teaches effective techniques for finding, competing for, and securing quality careers. Bill Bommarito, President of Coaching Concepts, Inc., stated, "It is my pleasure to present this valuable course; it is unique because it takes a holistic approach to finding a job in today's economic environment." The next class is scheduled for March 23, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. Call (636) 305-2030 or e-mail the [Regional Collaboration Center](#) for more information.

Crescent from University Health Services Inc. The deal is expected to close in the third quarter, pending state regulator approval. [Read more...](#)

**Zhu Zhu Pets Named Toy
of the Year**

Last week, at the 107th American International Toy Fair in New York City, Zhu Zhu Pets remote control hamsters were named toy of the year. They also won most innovative toy and best girl toy after becoming the hottest-selling toy of the holiday season. St. Louis-based Cepia LLC is now creating a new boy-friendly line called Kung Zhu battle hamsters. [Read more...](#)

**SBA To Honor the
Nation's Small
Businesses During
National Small Business
Week 2010**

The nation's top entrepreneurs will be honored at the U.S. Small Business Administration's National Small Business Week events to be held May 23-25, in Washington, D.C. A series of events and educational forums will mark the 57th anniversary of the agency and the 47th annual proclamation of National Small Business Week. The State Small Business Award Winners and recipients of the Champion and other Entrepreneurial awards are nominated by local trade associations, chambers of commerce, other business organizations and government agencies. [Read more...](#)

and Industry



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**Questions or Comments?
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GLOBAL NEWS

USITC to Hold Hearing in St. Louis

Seeks Input from Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Regarding



Export-related Experiences and Interests

The United States International Trade Commission (USITC) will hold a public hearing in St. Louis, in connection with two ongoing investigations into the extent and composition of U.S. exports by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and factors that may disproportionately impede U.S. SME exports. The hearing will take place at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 10, at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark, One South Broadway, St. Louis. [Read more...](#)

U.S. Product Literature Center at Globe 2010

Globe 2010 is Canada's largest environmental conference and trade fair attracting representatives from 80 countries. Over 450 exhibitors and some 10,000 industry representatives are expected to attend. There is no better venue, or more cost effective means for U.S. small and medium sized firms to gain valuable market exposure in the international environmental market than by participating in the U.S. Product Literature Center organized by the U.S. Commercial Service at Globe 2010. [Read more...](#)



Covidien Strikes Deal with Poland for Crucial Isotope



COVIDIEN

Covidien, a St. Louis company that processes a radioisotope produced by reactors into a form that can be used in medical tests, said that Poland's Institute of Atomic Energy will provide enough molybdenum-99 from the agency's Maria Research Reactor to meet the needs of about 1 million patients annually. Nuclear officials are also exploring ways to produce molybdenum-99 at a research reactor at the University of Missouri. [Read more...](#)

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