



BRPC Bulletin

Serving Lincoln,
Montgomery & Warren
Counties in
East-Central Missouri

BRPC Bulletin

March—April 2018

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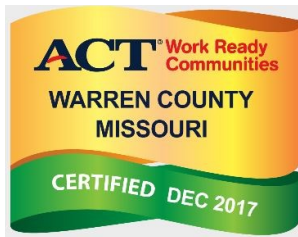
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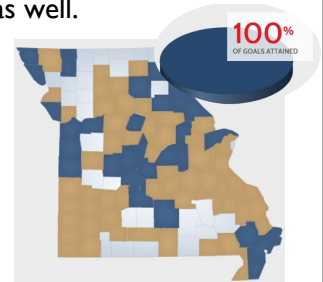
Counties Achieve Work Ready Community Designation!



The Missouri Department of Economic Development has announced that Warren County and Lincoln County have each been designated as a Certified Work Ready Community. The designation is the result of a unified effort by

workforce development professionals—along with business, education, local government, and community leaders—to meet the economic development needs of the counties. Montgomery County is very close to achieving the designation, as well.

The foundation of the certification is based on individuals at the county level earning an ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) and employers recognizing this credential. The NCRC is earned through scoring at certain competency levels on the WorkKeys Assessment which measures skills critical to on-the-job success across industries and occupations.



The Missouri Job Center of Warrenton, located at the office of Boonslick Regional Planning Commission, offered the WorkKeys Assessment to individuals who were employed, as well as those transitioning from their current jobs. In addition, staff worked with local school districts to test students who would soon be graduating and entering the job market. The assessment provides evidence of skills gaps. Educators are able to establish training which addresses these skills gaps, helping to create a strong talent pipeline for both existing businesses and new businesses considering locating in the area.

“We are proud that Warren County and Lincoln County have each been designated as a Certified Work Ready Community. This was truly a collaborative effort of local businesses and educators, elected officials, chambers of commerce, economic developers, and other community leaders. I cannot stress enough the importance of partners like St. Charles Community College East Central College, and Division of Workforce Development personnel.

Everyone worked as a team to achieve this goal.”

—JoAnn Toerper, BRPC Business Outreach Coordinator

Being designated as a Certified Work Ready Community illustrates a county’s commitment to bring opportunities for success to its residents and businesses.

Congratulations on this important achievement!

Director's Update



BRPC is springing ahead and ready to celebrate 50 years of service to the region! May 23, 2018, has been set as the date for an open house. We welcome everyone to come and share memories and stories. Look for more information in the local newspapers.

Staff have been assisting communities with projects, gearing up for the construction season, preparing grant applications and funding requests, planning for future projects, and educating people on recycle, reuse, and reinvest.

Workforce development is in full stride as Warren and Lin-

coln counties have been certified as Work Ready communities and the Job Center looks to continue the adult and youth programs and outreach to businesses and residents in the region.

The Human Services Transit Plan is complete, and work goes on for planning and infrastructure needs, resiliency projects, educational and entrepreneurship initiatives, business outreach, the revolving loan fund, and GIS mapping.

In addition, BRPC staff attended the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) Statewide Transportation Planners meeting to review

financial forecasts for the upcoming fiscal years and to discuss grant programs. In late summer 2018, MoDOT will have funding available for the Transportation Alternatives Program. We will disseminate specific information on these opportunities when it is available.

BRPC is here for you. If you require more information or would like a staff member to attend one of your meetings, then please don't hesitate to contact the office at (636) 456-3473 or email ceggen@boonslick.org.

The next Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is May 17.

BRPC Marks 50 Years of Service in 2018



This year, Boonslick Regional Planning Commission will celebrate 50 years of service. Founded on May 27, 1968, the organization was formed in response to federal legislation which allowed governments to join together to collectively address the economic and social needs of a region.

The organization plans to host a public open house and reception on May 23, 2018, which will take place at the BRPC office. The staff looks forward to highlighting the many contributions and celebrating the service to communities provided by BRPC. Previous chairmen, board members,

and staff will be invited to share their stories of the people, projects, and happenings over the years.

The following trivia question was posted in the previous newsletter: *Who is credited with the idea of naming the organization Boonslick Regional Planning Commission?*

The answer: *The name was suggested by O.E. Metzler, Judge of the Montgomery County Court.*

Next question: *How many individuals have served as BRPC Chairman, and can you name them?*

Remember to Save the Date - BRPC Open House - May 23, 2018 from 1:00 to 4:00
We hope to see you then!

Bicentennial Celebrations in the Region

Montgomery County



Founded December 14, 1818, Montgomery County celebrates its 200th anniversary this year. The county was named for Richard Montgomery, an American Revolutionary War general.

The Missouri County Bicentennial Committee has created historical displays which will be placed at several community events throughout the year. There are plans to create a book of "First Families".

Congratulations to Montgomery County.



Lincoln County

Lincoln County shares the same "birthday" as Montgomery County, having also been founded December 14, 1818. It also shares having been named for an American Revolutionary War general—Benjamin Lincoln.

Lincoln County held an event on March 20 to kick-off the year's celebration. The Lincoln County Genealogical Society has put together a book which features a historical timeline of the county from the 1800s through today, including histories of hundreds of families.

Congratulations to Lincoln County

Missouri Job Center-Warrenton to Host Several Hiring Events

Many area employers are hiring. The Missouri Job Center-Warrenton is hosting several events in April as a service to both businesses and job seekers. The events will be held at BRPC and include the following:

April 4	Warrenton Manor, 10:00-2:00
April 5	EPC, 10:00-2:00
April 5	Ameristaff, 11:00-2:00
April 17	New Florence Wood Products, 10:00-2:00

Now Hiring

Youth Program Staff Continue Outreach

Missouri Job Center—Warrenton Youth Workforce Specialists Cindy Schwada and Jayne Corbin continue to meet with counselors of area school districts in an effort to increase awareness of the Youth program and the many benefits it offers eligible participants. In addition, both workforce specialists will be providing presentations to graduating youth. Topics they intend to cover include academic and career planning, how to find and use labor market information to learn about available employment opportunities, and tips on applying for jobs.



With employers in the advanced manufacturing industry expressing a growing need for a skilled workforce, area schools are making efforts to provide education and training to meet this demand. Several are planning to host "Manufacturing Days". On March 15, 2018, Montgomery County R-2 hosted an event for seniors. Cindy and Jayne were in attendance. This was another opportunity for them to "get the word out" regarding the Youth program and reach those individuals who could use assistance. Both workforce specialists have a strong passion for helping youth and are dedicated to reaching out to them. We are proud of their enthusiasm and commitment to improve the lives of young people in the region!



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...And Yet Another Anniversary!

The grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony for the East Central Missouri Recycling Center, April 22, 2010

The East Central Missouri Recycling Center opened its doors on April 22, 2010, which happened to be the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. The facility represents a collaborative effort by local governments to provide opportunities for residents to recycle a wide variety of items. It serves the counties of Franklin, Lincoln, Montgomery, and Warren, which are members of the East

Central Missouri Solid Waste Management District. Boonslick Regional Planning Commission serves as the administrator for the district and operates the recycling center.

Since its opening, the recycling center has allowed for the diversion of approximately 1,900 tons of material from landfills. A list of items accepted can be found at <http://boonslick.org/recycling-center/> or feel free to contact BRPC at (636) 456-3473 if you have any questions.

Remember that Earth Day 2018 is April 22!

**Calendar of Events - Contact us for More Information****April**

- 2 Community Development Block Grant applications due
- 4 Hiring Event for Warrenton Manor, BRPC conference room, 10:00-2:00
- 5 Hiring Event for EPC, BRPC conference room, 10:00-2:00
- 5 Hiring Event for Ameristaff, BRPC training room, 11:00-2:00
- 17 Hiring Event for New Florence Wood Products, 10:00-2:00
- 18 Community Agencies in Partnership meeting, BRPC conference room, 9:30 a.m.
- 19 Youth workshop, BRPC conference room, 3:00 p.m.
- 22 Earth Day
- 26 Warren Co. CWRC designation celebration, Administration Bldg., 10:00 a.m.

May

- 8 BRPC closed in observance of Truman Day
- 16 Community Agencies in Partnership meeting, BRPC conference room, 9:30 a.m.
- 17 Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, BRPC, 11:00 a.m.
- 23 BRPC 50th Anniversary Reception/Open House, 1:00-4:00
- 28 BRPC closed in observance of Memorial Day