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#MakeACBeautiful applications available now!
Successful grant projects will:

- Be planned and carried out by youth. Youth 10-17 yrs old (5th-11th grade) may apply.
- Connect youth with their peers and create an opportunity for leadership. Each team will have at least 3 students; one will be designated Lead.
- Connect youth with adults. Each group will have an adult partner (community leader/parent/teacher).
- Beautify an area not on school grounds. Project examples might include: landscaping (cleanup of a rundown lot, planting flowers or trees); art (mural on the side of a building, paintings on crosswalks); something new (recreation, new park features, landmark).

Contact ACDC (660-744-6562, acdc@atchisoncounty.org, or via message on social media) for an application packet.

ACDC coordinates a number of workforce programs that connect students with opportunities in their county. In addition to local career awareness, we know that leadership and volunteerism must be cultivated. With this goal in mind, we created the #MakeACBeautiful youth grant program, which awards at least $500 to a beautification project in each of the three school district areas.

Grants for the 2018-2019 school year were awarded to:
- Tarkio FBLA, to partner with Tarkio Renewal on their downtown beautification planter project
- Fairfax 6th Grade Guidance Class, to paint and plant flowers in multiple areas in Fairfax
- Tarkio Parks & Recreation Junior Members, to spruce up the crows nest at the baseball field

Applications for 2019-2020 grant projects are due August 31, 2019, with winners announced shortly thereafter.

House Bill 220: Keeping Wind Farm Taxation LOCAL!

Background Wind farms in Missouri have always been privately-owned and locally assessed, with wind power being sold to publicly-owned utilities like KCP&L. Property taxes for these farms have remained in the communities where wind farms are located. In 2018, Ameren announced its intention to purchase the Brickyard Hill Wind Farm in AC upon completion. Under existing law, wind farms owned by utilities would be state assessed, with taxes being distributed to all counties in that utility’s service area. Because wind taxation had yet to be defined in statutes, wind farms (spanning hundreds of acres on land leased from dozens of owners) would, by default, be classified the same as a power plant.
The Mission of ACDC...

to initiate, stimulate and facilitate opportunity in Atchison County through
economic and community development.

Job Shadowing 2019: THANK YOU, BUSINESSES!

Each spring, ACDC compiles a list of businesses that are willing to host an AC Junior for our countywide job shadowing event. One of the main components of our career development programming, job shadowing is a way to get students out of their school (and community, in some cases) to interact with adults who show them what is possible right here in our county. We appreciate the businesses that were willing to participate on Friday, March 22, and we thank the following 40 businesses that were matched with 55 Juniors this year:

Advanced Pork, AC Library, AC Sheriff's Office, AC Veterinary Clinic, AC Wholesale Water Commission, Atchison-Holt Electric Coop, Community Hospital-Fairfax, Ella&Grey, EM's Emporium, Hurst Greenery, Hy-Vee, Kelly's Welding, KJ's Café, Ma & Pa Automotive, MDT Woodworks, Midwest Data Center, Midwest Data Smart Store, Minter Funeral Chapels, Murf's Auto Supply, Northwest Missouri Living Center, Pleasant View, Rock Creek Wind Farm, and Stoner Drug.

House Bill 220: Keeping Wind Farm Taxation LOCAL! (cont.)

Potential Impact to AC  Our existing wind farms have had a phenomenal impact on our local economy. Though AC landowners and emergency services bear the burden of hosting turbines during construction and maintenance, it has been worth it because of the additional revenue for taxing entities like ambulance and fire districts, schools and libraries, road and bridge departments, and health and senior services. Under current statute, should Brickyard Hill and future developments be sold to publicly-owned utilities, the economic benefit to our local taxing districts would be nearly eliminated.

The Solution  Legislation was introduced by both Rep. Allen Andrews (HB 220) and Sen. Cindy O'Loughlin (SB 72). AC Clerk Susette Taylor and others around the state were instrumental in helping Rep. Andrews craft HB 220. AC Commissioners, ACDC Director Monica Bailey, AC Superintendents and other AC leaders also joined the fight, traveling to Jeff City to help educate and testify on the importance of keeping wind taxation local. HB 220 passed through the House and the Senate with flying colors. Once signed by the Governor, this law will be effective August 28, 2019. At that point, any utility-owned wind farm will be locally assessed and the property taxes will stay local.

The Bottom Line  If you live in AC (or any other rural county where wind energy is a viable economic development tool), this legislation is an incredible win. Due to the diligent work of so many (especially Rep. Andrews!), we will continue to receive significant economic benefit from wind farms that are built in our county.
Thoughts from your ACDC Director...

Every 5 years, our county votes on whether or not ACDC should continue to be funded. Even though we communicate regularly through newspaper articles, social media, this newsletter, and visits to groups and businesses, I am always a little anxious. We work hard, we feel like we plant the right seeds and help where we can, but it’s difficult to know how our efforts are perceived. This is the closest thing we get to a report card, and we want to earn an A!

The weeks leading up to this vote are a flurry of meetings and conversations, because it is critical to connect ACDC to the ballot language (“economic development sales tax”) and to remind people that so many worthwhile programs and initiatives in AC are ours. We so appreciate the dozens of groups throughout the county who gave us time to tell our story. As with all good discussions, we learned as much as you did. We heard about what worries you, what you are working on, and what you want to see in the future.

The tax passed, and for this I am obviously grateful. But more than that, I am impressed by every person I spent time with this spring who is working to better our corner of the world. You are amazing and I’m proud to serve alongside you.

~Monica

ACDC Scholarship Recipients

ACDC’s scholarship program assists Atchison County graduates with any post-secondary training and education programs that can help them create a life here. ACDC offers a $1,000 award in two categories, for a total of two scholarships per school: career/technical training (Megan, Madison, Brock) and 4-year degree programs (Tyler, Kelcie, Grace). ACDC is proud to honor this year’s scholarship recipients, and we congratulate all our applicants on their hard work and achievements during their education in Atchison County.

Tyler Brown, Fairfax, son of John & Cheryl Brown, plans to pursue a BA in Business with a minor in Fire Science at the University of Central Missouri. “As a firefighter, I would love the opportunity to help people on their worst days. With this degree, I can help contribute to business in AC or maybe create a business of my own.”

Kelcie Gaines, Rock Port, daughter of Seth & Cindie Gaines, plans to pursue an AA of Arts Teaching Degree at NCMC, become involved with athletic programs, and then transfer to a 4-year university to earn a BA in English Education. “It is my goal to share my passion and knowledge with students in Atchison County and to coach someday using the skills I will have gained in college.”

Megan Lee, Tarkio, daughter of Bill & Barb Lee, plans to complete the John Deere Service tech program at Southeast Community College and pursue this career in AC. “Providing this service to AC would mean a lot to me because I have been part of the farming industry since I was young, and I would be able to help my fellow farmers pursue their passion.”

Madison Lesher, Tarkio, daughter of Corey & Jennifer Lesher, plans to complete the Occupational Therapist Assistant Program at State Fair Community College and eventually work at Community Hospital-Fairfax. “I want to keep giving back...the citizens have made Atchison County a great place to grow up.”

Brock Martin, Rock Port, son of Reed & Staci Martin, plans to obtain an AA in Agronomy/Precision Ag at Southeast Community College in Beatrice and help continue his family’s farming business. “I truly love where we live and what we do. My goal is to become involved in ways to further grow the (AC) economy.”

Grace Martin, Tarkio, daughter of Casey & Jackie Martin, plans to major in Child Psychology and minor in Criminal Justice at the University of Missouri-Columbia and work as a licensed psychologist in AC. “When I carry my profession back to AC I will be able to counsel children and teens in our community and bring them back to a healthy state of mind, so they too can be leaders one day.”
UPCOMING EVENTS

June:
* 4-6: Youth Golf Clinic (led by teaching pro Brad Volker). Tarkio Golf Club.
* 7-8: Tarkio Rodeo. Opening Ceremonies Friday Mutton Bustin' Fri-Sat, parade Saturday.
* 8: Doug Summa Memorial Car Show. Niedermeyer Park, Tarkio.
* 14-23: Little Women the Broadway Musical. Liberty Theatre, Rock Port.
* 16: Father’s Day Tournament. Tarkio Golf Club.
* 22: Doug Summa Memorial Park 5K & Kids Fun Run. Tarkio. Pre-register at City Hall.

July:
* 4: Rock Port 4th of July Fireworks. City Park.
* 23: Back to School Fair. Tarkio Community Building.

August:
* 3: Outdoor Triathlon. NW Missouri Sportsman's Club, Rock Port.
* 24: Midwest Ag Expo. RP Golf & County Club.
* 27: Graves-Chapple Research Farm Field Day

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Pools: Rock Port / Tarkio
Bowling: River Rock Lanes
Golf Courses: Rock Port Country Club / Tarkio Golf Club
Ball Fields: Fairfax / Rock Port / Tarkio
Fairfax / Rock Port / Tarkio / Watson / Westboro

Get Outside: MO Dept of Conservation https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places
For locations and additional details, visit atchisoncounty.org/recreation

#Flood2019
This spring, disaster found us again. We’ve endured traffic nightmares, loss of homes and livelihoods, family strife as commuting became impossible, and a radical decrease in commerce. We will survive this, as we have survived other trials, by lifting one another up. ❤️ Please remember to support AC businesses during this difficult time and always. Spend your money where your house is. #ShopAC

We’re All In This Together

SHOP ATCHISON COUNTY

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