



ATCHISON COUNTY

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

IN THIS ISSUE

Annual Meeting
Awards

ACDC Highlights

#ShopAC



Welcome to ACDC's 2020 Annual Meeting...or something like that!

Highlighting the good things in Atchison County (AC) is our favorite thing to do. While we'd much prefer to celebrate with you in person, this truly bizarre year forced a cancellation of our traditional meeting. We hope this newsletter will prove what we show to be true during each and every Annual Meeting: **#ACisAwesome!**

In case you are unfamiliar with ACDC, here are a few things you should know about us:

- 1) We are funded by a 1/4-cent sales tax that is voted on every 5 years.
- 2) Our mission is to initiate, stimulate and facilitate opportunity in AC through economic and community development.
- 3) We believe that no one cares about AC as much as our people do, that no one has more talent than our citizens (including our kids!), and that the best way to grow and add jobs and wealth is to build on what we have.
- 4) We work hard to invest your tax dollars to build a better future for this place we call home. We create and administer programs designed to help both new and existing businesses prosper, connect our emerging workforce (our amazing youth!) with local career opportunities, support high impact community projects, advocate for AC, and draw attention to the good things happening in our county.

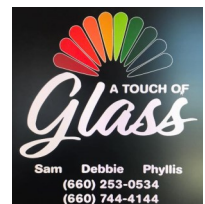
One of ACDC's favorite ways to celebrate our home is the recognition of new businesses. While some wait passively for the next big thing to rescue us and change our collective future, others move forward with confidence, providing new products and services to our county and beyond. These people work hard, assume risk, care about our home, and we are lucky to have them! This year's **New Business Award** winners are:

- **A Touch of Glass** (Rock Port), owned by Sam Harmon, Debbie Johnson, and Phyllis Ottmann, offers stained glass products and instruction.
- **1887 Bar & Grill** (Tarkio), owned and operated by John and Bev Sands, Sandy Clark and Matt Burke, serves high-quality food and drink Monday through Saturday evenings, plus lunch on Friday and Saturday.

(cont. next page)

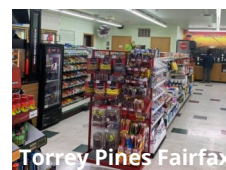


1887 Bar and Grill



Annual Awards, continued...

- **Beckman Construction** (Westboro), owner/operator Danny Beckman, is a licensed insured contractor offering concrete, remodeling, painting and drywall services.
- **Blush** (Rock Port), owned and operated by Veronica Lewis, offers lash extensions and microblading services.
- **Climate Controlled Storage** (Rock Port), owned by Billy & Cindy Thomas, rents 24-hour self-access storage units.
- **Community Home Health and Restorative Care** (Fairfax), owned by Shelley & Scott Bentley, offers skilled nursing, speech/occupational/physical therapy and other home health services.
- **Iguanas Baja** (Rock Port), owned by Javier Aranda, is an authentic Mexican restaurant serving delicious food daily.
- **Lola's Paw Spa** (Rock Port), owner/operator Taya Lewis, offers pet grooming.
- **Midwest Southern Designs** (Rock Port), owner/operator Mandy Herron, offers fresh flowers grown locally in season, flower subscriptions, customized bouquets, special event decorating services, and home decorating services and products.
- **MO Concrete LLC** (Tarkio), owned and operated by Josh Wright and Kevin Paris, constructs driveways, patios, sidewalks and pads, offers block work, and stamped and color concrete.
- **OP Contracting** (Rock Port), owner/operator Orry Paris, is an excavating business, including tree removal, ditch work, ponds, and tile repair services.
- **Relax and Unwind** (Rock Port), owned and operated by Josh & Kayti Hayes, is a mobile business offering espresso drinks, smoothies, cold brew coffee and gourmet sodas.
- **Renee's Hair Design & Barber Shop** (Tarkio), owner/operator Renee Sanders, is a salon offering walk-ins and appointments Monday-Friday, 1pm-6pm.
- **Torrey Pines Fairfax**, owned and operated by Amir Raza, is a convenience store and gas station.

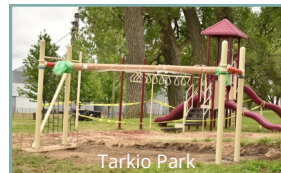


In addition to start-ups, we also have great respect for businesses that persist, thrive and position themselves for growth. This year's **BUSINESS EXPANSION AWARDS** go to...

- **Burlap & Bows** (Rock Port): purchased and renovated an empty building on Main Street, doubled retail space, created a website, and added fresh flowers, indoor plants, seasonal outdoor plants, and pumpkins.
- **Ella&Grey** (Rock Port): moved to new location, tripled retail space, added several product lines, and greatly expanded inventory.
- **Fertilizer Service Company** (Fairfax): added a new building for chemical storage, expanded dry plant and anhydrous plant, purchased all new equipment, and added two employees.
- **Midwest Chic Boutique** (Rock Port): built an addition to create a dedicated space for photo shoots and a storage area, leading to increased capacity for inventory and shopping.
- **Quilters Boutique** (Rock Port): purchased and remodeled an empty building, tripled retail space, expanded fabric lines, doubled classroom size to accommodate more classes, added two offices and a shipping/receiving area, and created space for an additional business (Studio T!).

In addition to seeing new businesses crop up and grow over the past year, we have also seen wonderful volunteer efforts throughout our county. We want to recognize several organizations with our **COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AWARD** this year.

- **Fairfax Fire Department:** completely renovated the Fairfax Community Room and kitchen.
- **Fairfax Improvement Foundation:** installed new bleachers at the football field.
- **MDT Woodworks** (Fairfax): renovated building next door to create space for new business.
- **Tarkio Rotary:** secured a grant and donated funds to help the City complete the City Parks Playground Equipment Project.
- **Westboro Wildcat Days Committee:** established a Veterans Memorial and School Memorial, and built new shelter house at the baseball field.



TARKIO TECH

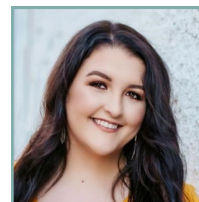
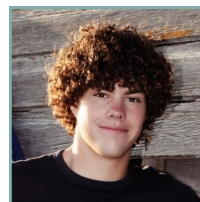
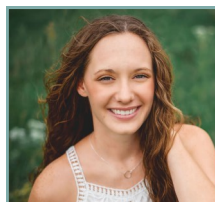
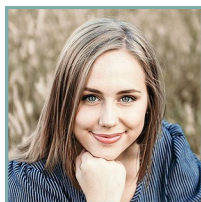
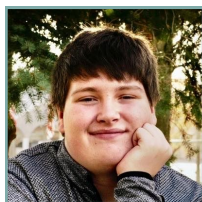


Sometimes a project comes along that significantly affects the economy of our county and, in this case, our region. Tarkio College has worked tirelessly to reinvent itself as a different kind of higher education institution. Offering technical certification courses for professionals in Wind Energy, Plumbing, and Welding, **Tarkio Technology Institute** offers skill development for critical industries in our area. Tarkio Tech graduated its first student in May and its fall semester is well underway. With plans to add more programs, Tarkio Tech is working hard to meet training needs in our area. We are pleased to honor Tarkio Tech with the 2020 **Economic Impact Award!**

ACDC Highlights & Happenings

Of all of the programs we administer, **emerging workforce (youth) career activities** are among our favorites.

- **Careers on Wheels** (9th) highlights non-desk jobs like ag, law enforcement, utilities, trades, and home health. Students spend five minutes with each, learning about careers and the individuals who chose them.
- **Youth Professionalism Workshop** (11th) starts with a crash course in How to Adult, including budgets, social media, entrepreneurship, getting a job, being a professional, and ends with a tour around the county where they hear from a local employer from each of the six career categories. The recurring theme for all our youth programs is, "I made a life here, you can too!"
- **Job Shadowing Day** (11th) is coordinated with dozens of incredibly generous and flexible businesses who are willing to take a student under their wings for a few hours.
- **#MakeACBeautiful** (5th-11th) is our youth community beautification grant program, designed to cultivate leadership and volunteerism. By the end of this year, we will see SIX projects completed around the county, by the following groups: Atchison County 4-H Lucky Clovers, Fairfax 6th Grade Guidance class, Rock Port Peer Counselors, Rock Port Student Council, Tarkio FBLA, and Tarkio Cub Scout Pack 88.
- **ACDC scholarships** assist graduating AC Seniors with continuing education that will enable them to be successful here. We award \$1,000 to someone from each school pursuing a traditional 4-year degree, and \$1,000 to someone from each school pursuing technical/trade school certification. Our 2020 recipients were Bennett Bowling, Beth Davis, Jesse Graves, Gus Hurst, Morgan Lingerfelt, and Keaton Williams.



*Sidenote: did you know ACDC now offers four **\$500 Tarkio Tech scholarships** each year to individuals pursuing a certificate or diploma at Tarkio Tech? Contact us for an application!*

(cont. next page)

ACDC Board & Staff

Directors:

- * Lori Seymour, President
- * Craig Corken, Vice President
- * Bob Alldredge, Treasurer
- * Eryn Stepp, Secretary
- * WC Farmer
- * Lydia Hurst
- * Roger A. Martin
- * Jeff Meyer
- * Scott Melvin

Staff:

- * Monica M. Bailey, Executive Director
- * Carol Clark, Administrative Assistant

Upcoming Events

Oct 24: Fall Fest -Tarkio Friendship Day
 Nov 3: Election Day
 Nov 19: #ShopAC

*ACDC will be closed in observance of the following holidays:
 Columbus Day (Oct. 12) • Veterans Day (Nov. 11) •
 Thanksgiving (Nov. 24-25)*

#ShopAC: Thursday, November 19



Mark your calendars, shoppers! We're working with local businesses on our annual, purposeful, countywide opportunity to Think AC First. **On Thursday, Nov. 19, participating AC merchants will stay open till 8 p.m.** Drawings, treats, deals, visits with neighbors and friends - just a few perks of our #ShopAC event! Follow us on Facebook/Instagram (@atchisoncountydevelopment) and read AC Mail for details later this fall.

ACDC Highlights & Happenings, cont.

We LOVE supporting businesses—both new and existing. A few ways we help:

- **Business Improvement Grant:** this 50/50 matching grant reimburses up to \$1,000 on eligible projects. To date, over \$126,000 of your tax dollars has been invested in 133 business improvement projects, with \$264,000 being spent locally.
- **#ShopAC:** our annual “think local first” event takes place on the Thursday before Thanksgiving. This year we added a Summertime #ShopAC event in response to the difficult times businesses were facing during COVID, and we plan to continue with a modified (shortened!) summer event going forward.
- **Startup Assistance:** if you are interested in opening a new business, please call us. We can help in many ways, including connecting you with resources (like NWMEF).



Photo: www.shoplocally.com

In addition to business assistance, we also support high impact community projects.

- Our **Community Enrichment Fund** has assisted with multiple projects in the past year, including AC Battle of the Books, Fairfax Fire Department, Fairfax Improvement Foundation, Leadership NW MO, Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation (NWMEF), Rock Port Senior Center, Tarkio Golf Club, and Tarkio Technology Institute.
- We provide **record keeping and staff support** to volunteer driven community revitalization groups like Tarkio Renewal and Restore Rock Port.

Everything else we do falls under the category of advocating for our home!

- **Great Northwest Day at the Capitol:** a regional educational legislative event in Jefferson City each February. Atchison County's 2020 booth (winner of the coveted Booth Contest!) showed that despite the Flood of 2019, we are “Staying Alive”! If you are interested in attending this event in the future, let us know!
- Our website, **www.atchisoncounty.org**, introduces visitors to our county, offers a search engine to find local businesses, and provides a centralized location for county information, such as this year's COVID resources and business updates.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside so many in our county who work tirelessly to preserve and improve this place we love so much. As always, please reach out to us if there is any way we can assist you and yours. Thank you for “attending” this year's Annual Meeting and for helping us celebrate so many ways **#ACisAwesome!**

Want to learn more about what we do or suggest how we can do better? Talk to us!

321 S. Main Street
 P.O. Box 243
 Rock Port, MO 64482
 (660) 744-6562
acdc@atchisoncounty.org

Website:
www.atchisoncounty.org

Facebook/Instagram
 (@atchisoncountydevelopment)