



ATCHISON COUNTY

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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In case you weren't one of the 95+ people who attended this year's celebration of all things #ACisAwesome, here is an awards summary for you!

#CELEBRATEAC

ACDC'S ANNUAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 5:30-7:30PM
FAIRFAX SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Congratulations to these **New Businesses**, hard working entrepreneurs who are creating their futures and growing our county!

- Anden Wright Detailing (Anden Wright, Tarkio) offers professional auto detailing and maintenance services for cars and trucks, SUVs and farm equipment. Services include full detailing, tire changes/balancing/rotations, oil changes, and more.
- Cooper Properties (Sheila Cooper, Rock Port) buys and renovates homes to be used as rental properties.
- Crowleys Auto Repair LLC (Gage Crowley, Fairfax) is a mobile mechanic, offering repairs and diagnostics, and covering everything from brake jobs to transmission replacements.
- Gibson Blades (Jacob Gibson, Rock Port) makes quality handmade knives with hard work, craftsmanship, and passion behind every blade.
- Dara and Donovan Spears (Tarkio) own two new businesses. The Hawthorn Room LLC is a beautifully curated event space on Main Street, featuring a kitchen, tables, chairs, and a serving buffet. Hawthorn Salt Sauna LLC, a halotherapy sauna offering halo salt therapy, red light therapy, infrared heat, and chromotherapy, is located at The Hawthorn Room.
- Hays Bookkeeping Services, LLC (Marshal Hays, Rock Port) provides accurate, dependable bookkeeping, account reconciliation, and clear financial reporting for small businesses.
- Holmes Automotive (Trevor Holmes, Rock Port), is an auto repair facility that offers everything from routine maintenance to major mechanical repairs on anything from scooters to diesel trucks.
- Lucas Honey (Levi Lucas, Rock Port), harvests local honey which is available for sale at Do It Best Hardware in Rock Port.
- Keeling's Dairy Diner, LLC, (Mallory Fisher, Fairfax) is an ice cream diner that serves up sweet treats like Stackers and Bulldogs, as well as coffees, dirty sodas, energy drinks, lemonades, and Sunday food specials. *(Thank you for providing dessert at our meeting!)*
- McGinness Game and Tackle LLC, (Josh McGinness, Tarkio) is a bait and tackle shop that offers a wide variety of live bait, along with nightcrawlers, frozen bait, fishing tackle, and other supplies, including custom bank poles.
- McNaughton Construction & Land Management, LLC, (Shane McNaughton, Westboro), repairs tile and intakes, builds small basins with intakes, and offers small tree, field edge, CRP, and pasture clean up.

New business list continued on next page.

About ACDC

ACDC was organized in the 1970s as a volunteer board. Since 1995, ACDC's board and full-time staff have worked to improve the business climate in Atchison County. Today, ACDC staff provides support to community organizations and collaborates with county, regional and state groups to better our county. The Mission of ACDC is to initiate, stimulate and facilitate opportunity in Atchison County through economic and community development.

#CelebrateAC, cont.

- Mac's Meats (Jake McEnaney, Tarkio) offers retail sales of Atchison County-grown beef, pork, fresh eggs, and other farm fresh products.
- Oswald Drone Application (Cameron Oswald, Fairfax), uses a sprayer drone to apply fungicide and herbicide on everything from full fields to ditches and fencelines, and everywhere in between.
- Rock Port Oil and Tire (Nate & Kelsey Chard, Rock Port), provides automotive services, including oil changes, tires, brakes, suspension, air conditioning, and more.
- Stoner Midwest Realty LLC (Tierra Stoner, Rock Port) offers local, personalized real estate services, specializing in residential homes, acreages, land, commercial properties, and investment properties.

If you want info on how to reach any of these businesses, please contact us at 660-744-6562 or acdc@atchisoncounty.org!

Congratulations to **Business Expansion Award** winner Perry Plumbing and Septic LLC!



Perry Plumbing began in 2018 as a side business for Kade and Kaylee Perry, where they primarily handled service calls. Over the years, they added a camera and locator, descaling and epoxy lining services, an excavator, and septic installations. In 2024, they created an LLC called **Perry Plumbing and Septic**, in January this year, they established a physical location in Tarkio, and this spring, they purchased their own pump truck. Perry Plumbing and Septic has been diversifying and expanding since they started, and we are so glad to recognize their hard work and success!

It's hard to quantify the impact of businesses and organizations that have been a part of our county for decades, sometimes spanning multiple generations. These four recipients of 2026 **Milestone Achievement Awards** are examples of outstanding service and excellence. We can't imagine life in AC without them!



In 1987, a young dentist named David Scarbrough and his wife Jennifer moved to our beloved corner of the world and joined Dr. Cleveland's dental practice. In 1989, the Scarbroughs purchased the practice and **David L. Scarbrough, DDS, LLC**, was born! For nearly 40 years, Dr. Scarbrough and his staff have served their patients with care, professionalism, knowledge, and efficiency. Dr. Scarbrough's love for and dedication to his patients, especially kids, is evidenced by the many individuals and families who have been trusting him for decades. Thank you, Dr. Scarbrough, for all the ways you have been there for us, both in your dental practice and through your generosity to your community!

In the late 70s, a John Deere mechanic (and his wife!) moved from Burlington, KS, to Atchison County to work at the newly built Tarkio Equipment [John Deere dealership]. Lucky for us, in 1985, that mechanic established **Fuzzy's Harvesting Repair**. Kenny Clapp initially worked out of a small shop north of Tarkio, though more often he took his uniquely outfitted truck to the field to repair tractors and combines there, a practice that was novel at the time. Around 1990, Kenny's wife, Joy, joined him at a new shop location and parts store on Hwy 59 south of the Y, where they served their customers for 30 years. In August 2019, Fuzzy's returned to the place it all began, only now he operates in a new, climate-controlled garage where the combines come to him! Thank you, Fuzzy's, for providing excellent service and products to our agriculture community for over 40 years.



#CelebrateAC, cont.



Ted and Vickie Simmons began Simmons MFA Service in 1976. Ted's brother Bud worked for them in high school and joined them full-time in 1981. Ted had a huge heart for service, and when Bud joined, the service and business side of things grew even stronger. In 2017, Bud and his wife Lyn purchased the building from MFA and the business became **Simmons Service, LLC**. In 2021, our community lost Ted to cancer, but Bud has continued the family business, with Paul Whittington joining them

then. Over the years, Simmons has employed several school-to-work students from both Fairfax and Tarkio High Schools, one of them being Bud's nephew Blake, who went full-time after graduation and is now helping with the tire side of the business. For 50 years Simmons has been the epitome of small-town customer service. We can't imagine Main Street without you, Simmons!

In the late 60s, Kelly and his wife Nancy bought a few acres on Highway 136, and he started **Kelly's Welding and Repair**, working out of his garage and serving customers on nights and weekends when he wasn't working at the packing plant. His hired man was a heavy-duty 1969 International boom truck, which he still uses occasionally to this day. In 1972, he built the building you see today and went full time in his business, working 6-7 days a week. Over the years, Kelly has used his welding and repair skills on anything from farm machinery to metal templates and anchor bolts on turbine bases, and everything in between. Thank you for being such an essential part of Atchison County for over 55 years.



In addition to celebrating businesses, we also love to recognize volunteer-based projects with our **Community Improvement Awards**:

On May 15, in collaboration with the **Fairfax Kiwanis Club**, the **Fairfax Improvement Foundation** kicked off a 30-day fundraiser with a goal of raising \$100,000 for the Fairfax School to honor the 100th anniversary of the original high school building. A Patterson Family Foundation grant contributed a little over \$37,000, but \$75,000 was raised from individuals here and across the country (14 different states!). Fairfax is famous for successfully raising funds for projects that matter to everyone who has ever been a part of the community.

Tarkio Parks & Rec never tires in their mission to bring people together, especially when it's fun! In addition to coordinating events like Friendship Day, Chews and Cruise Night, the Christmas Light Parade, and feeding people during baseball games, they also see needs in Tarkio and work to address them. In 2025 they set a goal of raising \$70,000 to renovate the tennis and pickleball courts, and in May, the newly finished courts opened, bringing joy to hosts of people who use the courts regularly. Tarkio Parks & Rec is an amazing example of what a group of volunteers can do when they are passionate about their people and their community.

And speaking of **volunteers**, a recognition of one who is **Outstanding**:



A few years ago, **Joanna Burke** started a mentorship program at the Rock Port School called GuidingFlight. She didn't have a road map, just a heart for kids and a passion for connecting kids regularly with adults who care about them [something you hear ACDC preach from time to time - please see our Youth+Careers article on the back page!]. In 2024, Joanna (along with Superintendent Rex Bollinger and School Counselor Shauna Farmer) connected with TeamMates, a group that started 35 years ago when Coach Tom Osborne created a mentoring program with his UNL football players and has expanded to multiple states throughout the Midwest. Though she has many who support her efforts, it is mostly due to Joanna's time and talents that Rock Port

TeamMates became the first chapter in Missouri, and we're thrilled that Tarkio TeamMates is happening now as well. Thank you, Joanna, for all the ways you love our kids, whether through your day job or your impactful volunteerism like TeamMates!

*WHEW! So much #ACisAwesome to celebrate that we didn't have space to talk about how amazing our speakers (**Shelby Hurst & Jaycee Nell**) and meal (**Crystal Woodring**) were this year. Thank you for sharing your time and talents!*

ACDC Board & Staff

Directors:

- * Lori Seymour, President
- * W.C. Farmer, Vice President
- * Craig Corken, Treasurer
- * Eryn Stepp, Secretary
- * Jill Davis
- * Mary Ann Hull
- * Roger A. Martin
- * Jeff Meyer
- * Josh Oswald

Staff:

- * Monica M. Bailey, Executive Director
- * Stephanie True, Bookkeeper/ Receptionist

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ACDC will be closed in observance of the following holidays:
Columbus Day (October 12) • Veterans Day (November 11) • Thanksgiving (November 26-27)

ACDC Youth+Career Programs: Fall 2026

Through our Youth+Career programs, we connect our delightful AC students with our amazing local employers. By the time our high school seniors graduate, we want them to know about the possibilities available to them here. On the flip side, we want to give our employers opportunities to interact with students who will be assets to our community in the coming years.

We appreciate participating businesses and schools (especially the counselors!), for recognizing the value of these connections and working with us to make these programs happen every year.

- Careers on Wheels for Freshmen was held Sept. 23 at Rock Port City Park, with nearly 60 students and 10 business and organizations attending.
- Youth Professionalism Workshop for Juniors will be held Thurs, Nov. 5 at the TAC.

CAREER

LIFE

AC Holiday Makers Market: Sat., Nov. 7



Atchison County Artisans is hosting its 5th annual Holiday Makers Market at the Rock Port Elementary Cafeteria on Nov. 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Shop for Christmas gifts made by local artisans, including crochet, woodworking, pottery, baked goods, and more. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in attendance from 1-2 p.m., so bring the whole family!

Local makers, there still may be a spot for you! If you sell goods that are homemade, homegrown, or value added and want to sign up, please call/text Sandy Thompson (660-253-7272) or Mary Salmond (660-253-0546).

#ShopAC: Thursday, November 19

Mark your calendars for our annual shop local event! **On Nov. 19, participating AC merchants will stay open till 8 p.m. (Several business will also accept passports on Friday, Nov. 20!)** Drawings, treats, deals, visits with pals and neighbors - just a few perks of our #ShopAC event!

Our county has so many businesses that work hard to serve you. Please make time to support them during this event. Follow us on social media (and in AC Mail!) for details!



Leadership Northwest Missouri

Leadership Northwest Missouri brings together participants from throughout our 19-county region to hone leadership skills, explore regional issues and gain a network of contacts throughout the region. At the end of six months, LNW graduates will have received high-quality leadership training and built an incredible number of connections. Completed **Class of 2027** applications are due **November 1, 2026**. To apply, visit leadershipnorthwestmissouri.org.

