

*“There she stands, proud in all her glory.”*

# Missouri County Record

Spring 2011



**Shelby County Courthouse, Shelbyville, MO**

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## From The County Seat To The Chamber, And Back Again

# Different Roles, Common Goals

By Dick Burke, Executive Director  
Missouri Association of Counties

In 2008, The Missouri Association of Counties and the County Commissioners' Association of Missouri adopted the National Association of Counties' slogan "Restore The Partnership" to describe the essential need for state representation and local officials to work together and communicate openly about the issues and challenges facing their constituents. Successful public service is driven by cooperation and understanding between state and local officials, a partnership in governance which, in fiscally challenging times, is more important than ever. Though their offices, duties and responsibilities are different, state legislators and county officials serve the same Missourians, and both strive to accomplish the goals of those who elected them. The common desire to serve often leads many to either seek higher office as a lawmaker or to seek governance closest to the people.

Term limits also play a significant part in the changing of roles for Missouri officeholders. In 1992, Missourians voted to adopt term limits. Many debate the benefits and negative consequences of limiting our legislators' time in office. For better or worse, one consequence is the loss of institutional knowledge that comes with expiring terms. The Legislature works on many issues over a time period exceeding that of legislators' terms in office; thus, the General Assembly perpetually has a significant portion of its body "learning the ropes" and ultimately lacking immediate historical knowledge of the process and issues at hand.

Many county officials begin their careers of public service in county government before pursuing a career serving a broader constituency. Also, because of term limits, many state legislators decide to continue their service to Missourians at the local level when their tenure in the General Assembly is up. Missouri has a long, distinguished history of public servants moving between the state General Assembly and their respective county seats. Having this unique experience of serving in both capacities helps bring perspective to each position, and such perspective aids in strengthening understanding at both the state and county levels regarding the challenges and needs of the people our elected officials serve.



## The Missouri County Record Vol. 17, No. 1

A Publication Of The Missouri Association Of Counties  
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The Missouri Association of Counties, founded in 1972, is a nonprofit corporation and lobbying alliance of county elected and administrative officials who work to improve services for Missouri taxpayers. The board of directors meets on the third Wednesday of designated months in Jefferson City to promote passage of priority bills and monitor other legislation before the state General Assembly and the United States Congress. The Missouri County Record is produced four times annually by the association staff. Subscription rates for non-association members are \$15 per year prepaid. Rates for association members are included in membership service fees. All articles, photographs and graphics contained herein are the property of the association and may not be reproduced or published without permission. Advertising rates are available upon request.

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1. Roseann Bentley – Greene County Associate Commissioner
2. Jim Viebrock – Greene County Presiding Commissioner
3. Judy Berkstresser – Stone County Clerk
4. Marilyn Ruestman – Newton County Presiding Commissioner
5. Tom Self – Benton County Presiding Commissioner
6. Jason Brown – Platte County Presiding Commissioner
7. John Griesheimer – Franklin County Presiding Commissioner
8. Ed Robb – Boone County Presiding Commissioner
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## Former county officials who are now legislators:

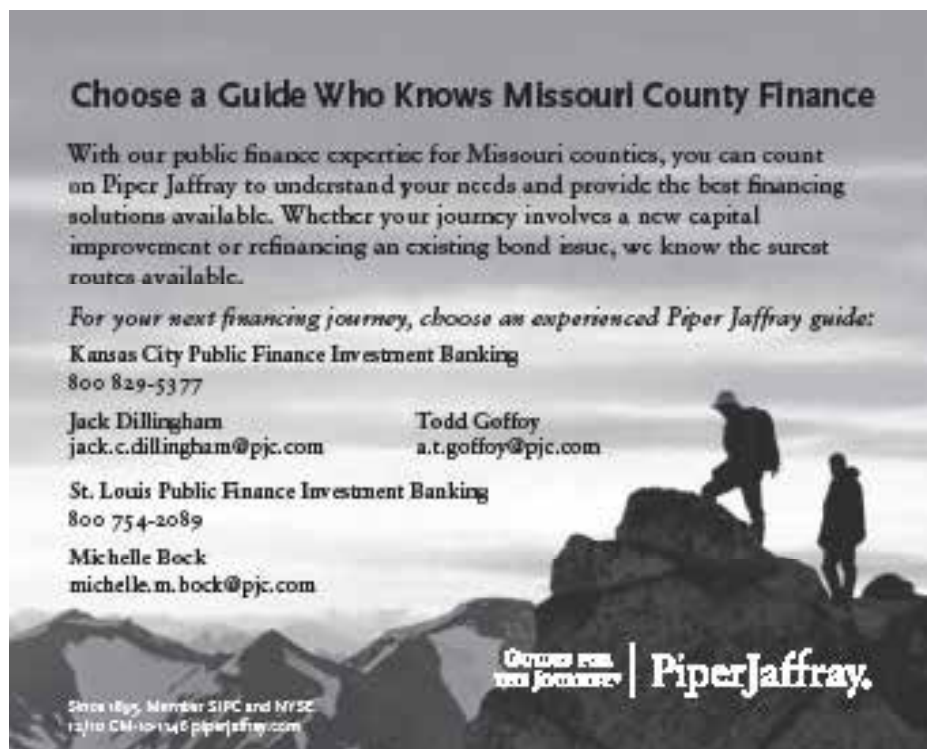
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## About Missouri's Term Limits

Prior to 1992, Missouri had no limit to the number of terms state legislators were allowed to serve. On Nov. 3 of that year, 75 percent of Missouri voters approved an amendment to the *Missouri Constitution* (Article III, Sec. 8) establishing that legislators could serve no more than two 4-year terms in the Senate and four 2-year terms in the House (16 years total in the Missouri General Assembly).

In 2002, this provision was amended to allow legislators who filled seats vacated after a term's midpoint to subsequently run for up to four complete two-year House terms and/or up to two complete four-year Senate terms. Before this amendment, filling a vacant seat counted as a full term of service.

There has been a growing push from legislators in recent years to revise Missouri's term limits. One proposal this session (Sen. Green's SJR 12) would amend the *Constitution* to extend term limits for members of the General Assembly from eight years to 10 years in each chamber. This change would go into effect January of 2022.

Another proposal (Rep. Gray's HJR 28) would amend the *Constitution* to state that any member of the General Assembly would be allowed to serve no more than 16 total years in the House and/or Senate, but would be allowed to serve any portion of those years in either chamber.

As would any proposed change to the current term limits, these changes would be in the form of constitutional amendments contingent upon Missouri voter approval.



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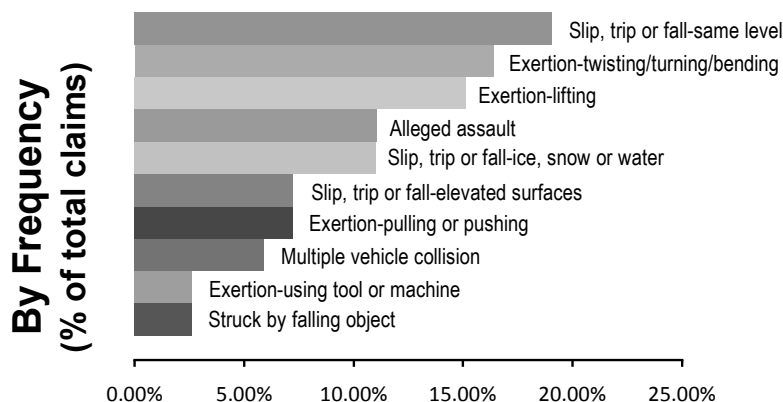
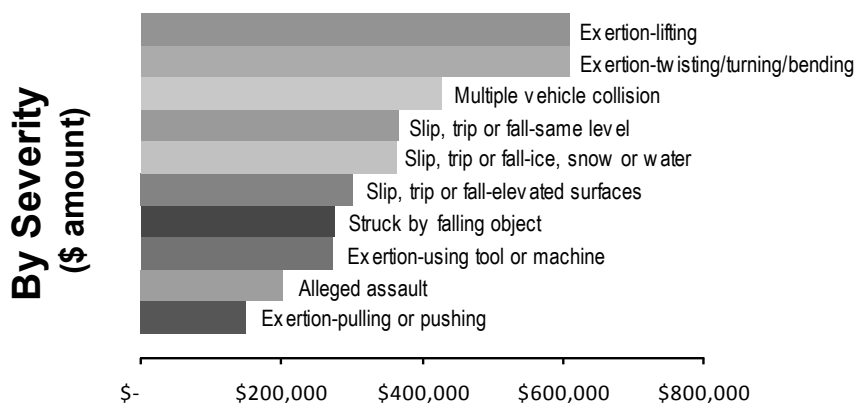
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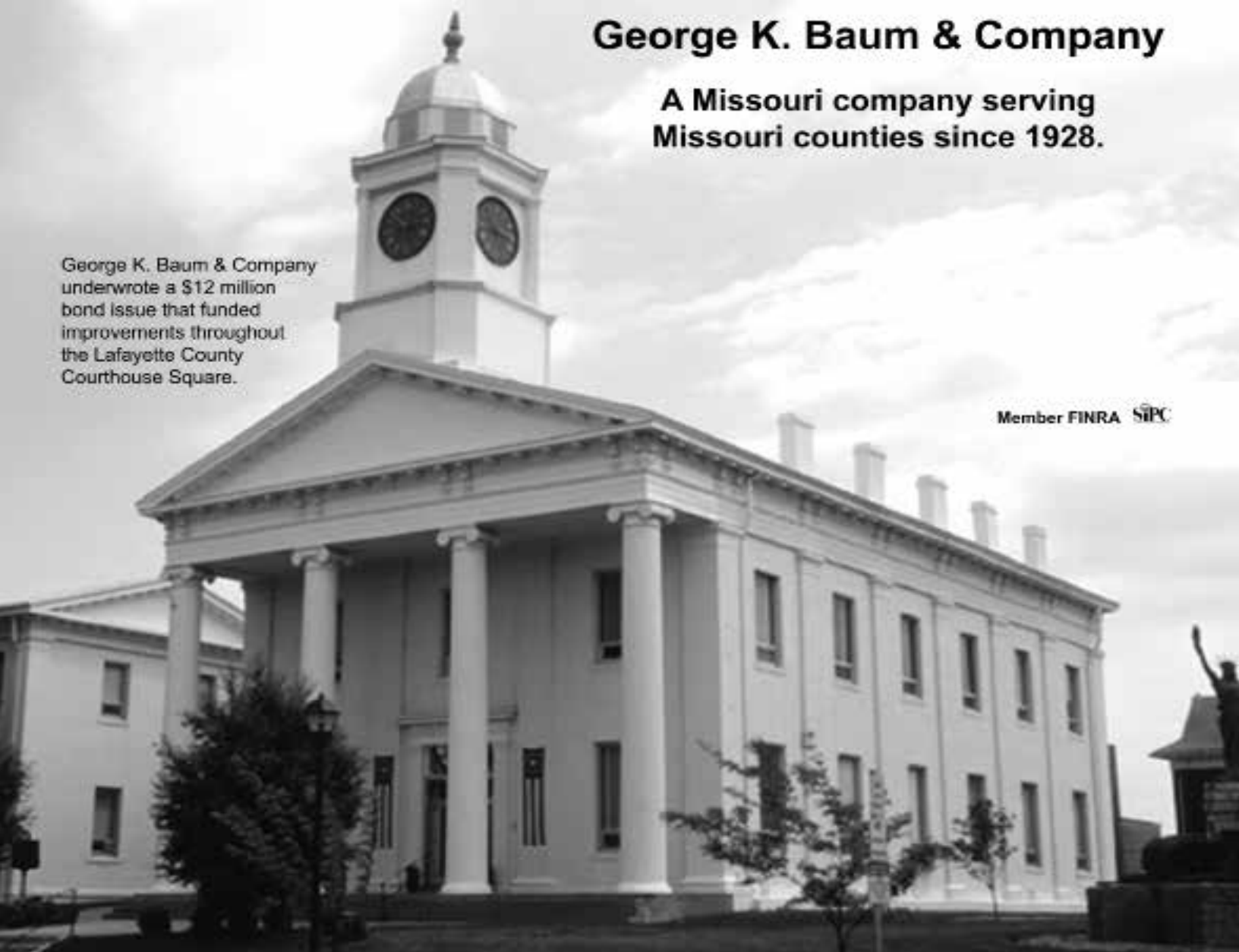
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## Greene County DWI Court Named Academy Court

For the second time in three years, the Greene County DWI Court has been named an Academy Court by the National Drug Court Institute (NDCI), in partnership with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Formal announcement of the award came on March 11 in the Greene County Judicial Courts Facility, Springfield, MO.

Speakers included Missouri Supreme Court Chief Justice William Ray Price; the Hon. Thomas Mountjoy, Greene County presiding judge; and the Hon. Peggy Davis, Greene County Drug Court/DWI Court commissioner.

The Greene County DWI Court is one of four Academy Courts named after a rigorous multi-phase evaluation and a scoring process. Greene County first earned the 3-year Academy Court designation in 2008. As an Academy Court, Greene County serves as a training site and provides technical assistance for other communities interested in reducing DWI repeat offenses through use of the DWI Courts. The other courts named are in Athens, GA, Newport Beach, CA, and Holland, MI.

The Greene County DWI Court uses accountability and long-term treatment to address the root causes of drunk driving: alcohol and other substance abuse. Participants are convicted DWI offenders who, rather

than serving a jail or prison sentence, are placed under court-supervised probation. They are required to undergo intensive treatment and counseling, submit to frequent supervision and random drug and alcohol testing, obtain employment or vocational training, and make regular appearances before a specially trained judge. Through DWI Court, participants learn how to

become productive members of society. Graduates typically obtain vocational and educational training, maintain stable employment, mend broken family relationships, and, through sobriety, become positive role models for their children.

According to the Office of the State Court Administrator, there are currently 3,000 participants in Drug or DWI Courts in the State of Missouri. Approximately 2,660 of the participants have been diverted from serving a prison sentence in the Department of Corrections. The incarceration cost to the state of

Missouri would be \$43 million per year. The total cost to operate Drug and DWI Courts is only \$16 million per year, therefore saving \$27 million per year for the taxpayers of the state of Missouri.

For more information, call the Hon. Peggy Davis, Greene County Drug Court/DWI Court commissioner, or Marilyn Gibson, Drug Court/DWI Court administrator, at 417-829-6059.



*(From left) Missouri Chief Justice William Ray Price, Hon. Peggy Davis, and Greene County Associate Commissioner Roseann Bentley (on behalf of Greene County) receive the honor for being designated an Academy Court.*

### Federal Highway Program Extended

On March 4, President Obama signed another Continuing Resolution which extends the federal highway program through Sept. 30, 2011 (the end of the fiscal year). This is the seventh extension of the highway-transit authorization (known as SAFETEA-LU) since Sept. 30, 2009, when it was originally set to expire.

SAFETEA-LU contains \$202 million for Missouri highway contracting authority, \$17 million of which is apportioned for off-system bridge maintenance (the BRO program). We will keep you posted as to the status of any new highway funding authorization proposals.

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# Legislators Push Advance Voting, Photo ID

Reforming Missouri's election process has been a priority for many in the General Assembly this session. Most notably, two issues continue to drive legislative action regarding elections: advance voting and photo identification requirements. Sen. Bill Stouffer's SB 3 is the primary vehicle that would establish statewide advance voting and photo identification provisions. Upon voter approval, Sen. Stouffer's SJR 2 would amend the *Missouri Constitution* to allow for these requirements to go into effect. (The House versions containing similar provisions are Rep. John Diehl's HB 329 and Rep. Stanley Cox's HJR 14, respectively).

With advance voting in specific, the primary focus at the county level is on resources and logistics. "Our main concern right now is with advance voting," stated Debbie Door, Franklin County clerk and president of the Missouri County Clerks' Association and Election Authorities. "Many of our members are trying to anticipate the full scope of how these provisions would be implemented and how much it would cost."

The bill language specifies that advance voting would only take place if the money to do so is appropriated by the General Assembly and (*as of press time*) distributed to the counties; thus, there should be no fiscal impact to counties. That being said, the cost and resources necessary to carry out advance voting would be significant. For example, the fiscal note provided by Platte County calculates that it would cost approximately \$47,950 to implement advance voting. These resources include facilities, employment of election judges and staff, utilities, communications (Internet and telephone services), hardware, and software necessary to comply with the law.

Statewide, FY 2013 projections for county election authorities' reimbursements is estimated to be \$371,280. Total state costs to implement all advance voting and photo ID provisions that year are estimated to be \$6,679,780. (A portion of these costs include one-time costs, from voting machine purchases to photo ID notifications.)

Besides the costs involved, provisions could potentially be confusing for voters. "Some of the proposed changes may be complicated for some," stated Cooper County Clerk Darryl Kempf. "We simply want a process that is easy for voters to understand and streamlined for election authorities to efficiently implement."

Under current SB 3 language, mail-in absentee voting will remain unchanged from the provisions already established under Secs. 115.275-115.304, *RSMo*. To vote absentee, beginning the sixth Tuesday prior to the election, voters will still have to mail in their ballots with a reason for voting absent listed on the accompanying envelope. All absentee ballots must be received by the closing

of the polls on election day.

Under SB 3's proposal, beginning the third Saturday prior to the election and up until the Tuesday prior to the election (9 total days, excluding Sundays), voters would be allowed to vote advance ballots. The advance ballots would be similar to election day ballots and, unlike absentee voting, would require no reason for voting advance. Ballots would be cast using voting machines, similar to how voting takes place on election day, and election authorities would be able to digitally save and record voting information from the machines after each day to be added to the total vote tally.

A logistics issue of potential concern is where to physically

set up voting precincts for the extended advance voting period. Under SB 3, election authorities would be required to establish one advance voting center in each senatorial district or in each county located in such a district if it contains more than one county, and three centers in each jurisdiction governed by a board of election commissioners. Some counties with limited facilities may face challenges securing space to adequately provide for advance voting.

**Again, it is important to note that these provisions will only go into effect if the funds to carry out advance voting and photo ID requirements are appropriated and distributed by the General Assembly.** If, for a particular election year, the General Assembly does not appropriate and distribute the funds necessary to carry out these provisions, Missourians would need to be properly informed of the change to elections procedures.

At this stage in the legislative session, the Missouri elections process is poised for reform. "You're going to get advance voting in Missouri because your constituents want it," Sen. Stouffer told MAC's membership at its 2011 legislative conference. "It's whether you want [the Legislature] to pass it or whether you want it to pass by initiative petition." Even if these provisions pass, voters will ultimately have the choice to amend the *Constitution* to allow advance voting and photo identification requirements to become the law.

"We appreciate Sen. Stouffer as well as Reps. John Diehl, Tony Dugger, Sue Entlicher, Pat Conway, Mike Lair and others for working with election authorities in the closing days of session to develop more concise, feasible provisions. Making sure we have the funding and resources to smoothly carry out advance voting requirements is of primary concern to county clerks and election authorities," Kempf stated. "We owe it to voters to conduct elections in the most efficient and cost-effective means possible."

**County Fiscal Notes For Advance Voting**

County	Staff	Judges	Supplies	Equipment	Rent
Atchison	\$0	\$4,800	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$3,000
Carroll	\$5,200	\$6,000	\$10,000	\$4,500	\$3,000
Cole	\$17,700	\$5,120	\$5,000	\$7,135	\$2,500
Cooper	\$10,700	\$4,800	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$3,000
Daviess	\$1,525	\$1,800	\$4,750	\$18,750	\$0
Franklin	\$15,500	\$0	\$11,500	\$36,000	\$5,000
Holt	\$3,500	\$5,400	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,000
Johnson	\$11,064	\$25,200	\$8,500	\$7,500	\$3,500
Lawrence	\$8,500	\$5,200	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$0
Linn	\$7,900	\$3,400	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$0
Montgomery	\$10,700	\$4,800	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$3,000
Scott	\$24,000	\$9,000	\$7,000	\$6,500	\$6,000
Shelby	\$5,200	\$2,400	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
St. Francois	\$3,316	\$1,530	\$2,199	\$0	\$0
Wayne	\$2,800	\$3,500	\$3,300	\$4,500	\$500

## **Middle Mile Projects Help Connect Missouri's Counties**

### **Sho-Me Technologies**

In September of 2010, Sho-Me Technologies LLC, a subsidiary of Sho-Me Power in Marshfield, MO, was proud to receive a \$26.6 million stimulus grant as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's (ARRA's) Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP). The Sho-Me Technologies stimulus project (Sho-Me MO) was one of two middle mile projects (along with BlueBird Network) to receive such an honor. The grant's main goal is to dramatically increase the presence of middle mile broadband services throughout rural, underserved and unserved areas of the state, where 93 percent of the proposed service territory is economically distressed.

Missouri is made up of numerous small, isolated, rural communities that could benefit greatly from improved broadband services and lower costs for these services. As broadband needs have increased rapidly in the past few years, being behind in the latest technology has put these communities at a major disadvantage. With the grant received and project proposed by Sho-Me Technologies, many communities are about to see a change for the better.

Sho-Me Technologies' proposed fiber optic network covers 30 counties and nearly 1,400 miles of fiber network, expanding broadband availability geographically to an additional 26 to 29 percent of the state. The network is intended to be purely "open access," with the network and related facilities potentially shared among over 66,000 unrestricted business users and 260,000 households. The proposed service area would also positively impact over 6,000 health care and social assistance businesses, as well as 140 school districts and 69 libraries.

The Sho-Me MO network will be constructed in a way to pass through at least 100 Community Anchor Institutions, or CAIs. These CAIs will be directly "on-net" and connected to the high-speed backbone, giving them access to broadband services across the state. Examples of CAIs include schools, colleges, hospitals, healthcare providers, libraries, public safety agencies, and government facilities.

One example of a CAI that would directly benefit from broadband fiber is the Webster County Courthouse. Currently, they have several different Internet connections in order to serve the various departments within the courthouse. By building a fiber optic network that will pass through the courthouse, the Sho-Me MO project can potentially consolidate and streamline the management and costs for faster and more reliable broadband service.

As more and more information is available over the Internet, a fast and reliable connection becomes more important. An example of this is the assessor's office providing access to online GIS mapping. In Polk Coun-

ty, the possibility has been discussed that the Sho-Me MO network could potentially be used to allow multiple counties share the same WebGIS server system. This type of "share-to-gain" system could reduce the total cost of each county by reducing the overall hardware, software and communications costs.

Sho-Me Technologies has provided middle mile communications services to Missouri's K-12 schools, colleges, public libraries, health care, and affiliate organizations since 1997, and has a proven track record of success. In addition to putting communities on the cutting edge of technology, it is estimated that approximately 288 job-years will be impacted by the grant project in the near term (e.g., fiber installation technicians, construction workers, etc.), with this project expected to be completed by September 2013.

This information was provided by Sho-Me Technologies. Visit them at [www.shometech.com](http://www.shometech.com) for more information.

### **BlueBird Network**

Bluebird Network, formerly Bluebird Media, is administering a \$45 million ARRA grant from the U.S. Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The purpose of the grant is to construct a middle mile network that will make broadband affordable and accessible to 59 rural and underserved counties in northern and central Missouri. The grant represents a \$65 million public-private partnership that includes the state of Missouri, the U.S. Commerce Department, and private investors.

In March, 2011, Bluebird Media and Missouri Network Alliance (MNA), merged to create Bluebird Network, headquartered in Columbia, MO, with offices in Kansas City and St. Louis. This new company will utilize 3,000 miles of existing fiber combined with over 1,000 miles of new fiber to create a robust high-speed telecommunications network. Bluebird Network will have the strength to support and enhance the rapid build-out of new fiber routes by fall of 2012, while building upon existing broadband services.

Connecting high-speed broadband to CAIs in the 59 county coverage area is a top priority for Bluebird Network, and working with county governments throughout the grant coverage area is essential to the success of Missouri's broadband initiative. Bluebird's broadband services (10Mg-100Gb Ethernet) will supply CAIs with sufficient bandwidth capacity to plan for long-term telecommunication opportunities. It may be possible to directly link to the network and realize significant cost savings. Please visit Bluebird Network online at [www.bluebirdnetwork.com](http://www.bluebirdnetwork.com) and click on the CAI tab at the top of the page for more information.

*Please see the following page for a map of the current middle mile and last mile MOBroadbandNow projects.*













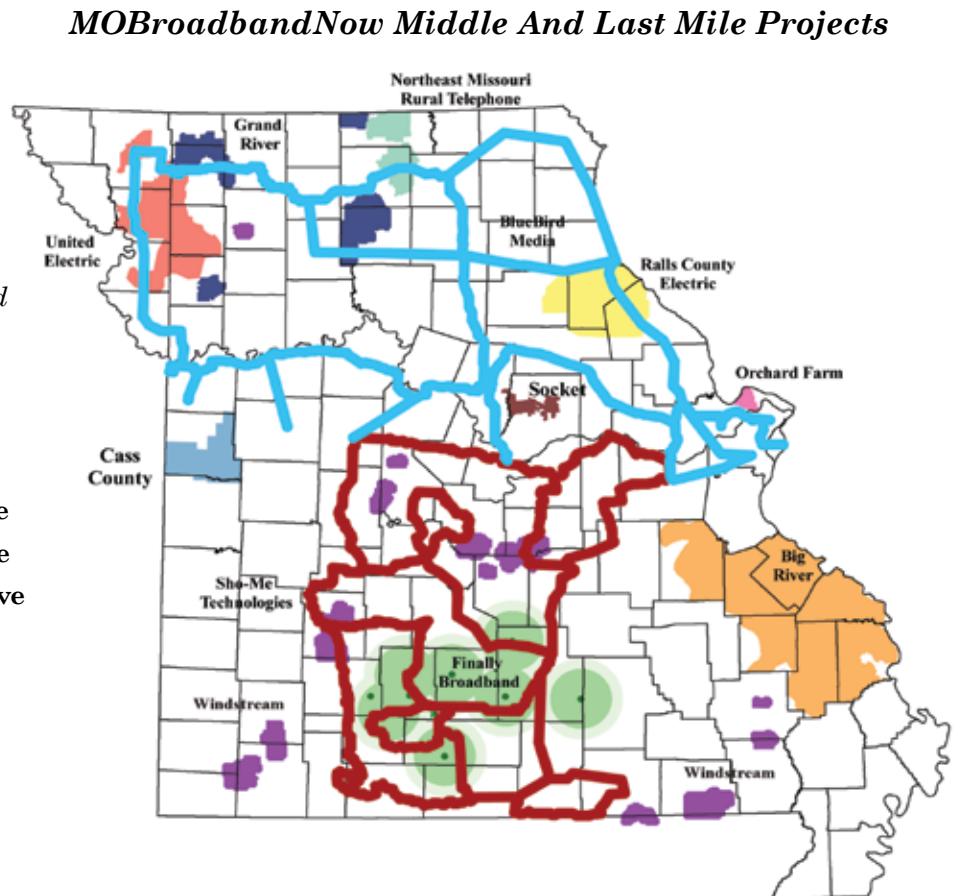
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### Last Mile Projects

*Last mile providers are connected via the middle mile “backbone” and distribute services to their respective communities.*


-  United Electric Corp.
-  Grand River Mutual Telephone
-  Northeast MO Rural Telephone
-  Ralls County Electric Cooperative
-  Cass County
-  Socket Telecom
-  Orchard Farm Telephone
-  Finally Broadband
-  Big River
-  Windstream Corp.



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## Re-Authorization Needed For Secure Rural Schools Program

The Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act (SRSCA) is a contract based upon an historic partnership between the federal government and forested counties nationwide. It is critical to preserving local education systems, maintaining roads, maintaining natural resources on federal lands, and creating rural jobs.

### History Of The Federal Program

In 1911, the Weeks Act authorized the purchase of lands in the eastern and southern U.S. to protect the headwaters of navigable streams. These lands were to be maintained as National Forests and the Act required that, "five percentum of all monies received during any fiscal year from each National Forest ... shall be paid to the States ... for the benefit of the public schools and public roads of the county or counties in which such National Forests are situated."

In 1913, agricultural appropriations bill language was added to the Weeks Act, wherein the 5 percent was changed to 25 percent of revenue generated by activity of these lands.

The Clarke McNary Act of 1924 expanded the requirement that the lands be acquired to protect navigable waters.

The 25 percent return was critical to the health of rural forested counties, schools and services. This is especially true as nationwide National Forests include 190 million acres and can cover as much as 87 percent of land mass in some counties.

The 25 percent share worked well until the 1980s when harvesting was greatly reduced by environmental laws and public policy changes. This created a fiscal crisis for rural counties and schools. The "contract" was in jeopardy.

In response, Congress passed the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act in 2000 to ensure the terms of the contract were met. In

many cases, it is the only thing standing between rural counties and schools and financial ruin.

### SRSCA Funding To Missouri

- In 2008, Missouri counties and school districts received \$5.1 million in funding from SRSCA.
- From 2008 to 2011, rural Missouri is projected to receive \$17.51 million in SRSCA funding.
- SRSCA funding to Missouri will decline by 78 percent from \$5.1 million in 2008 to \$1.1 million in 2012 – a loss of almost \$4 million.

### Take An Active Role

Both MAC and NACo encourage those receiving these federal funds to take an active role in persuading Congress to renew the contract between the federal government and rural communities through a long-term 10-year reauthorization of the SRSCA program.

One way is by joining the Partnership for Rural America Campaign and its grassroots effort by becoming a member of a Regional Coalition Action Team. Visit [www.partnershipforruralamerica.org](http://www.partnershipforruralamerica.org) where interactive maps of state and county level SRSCA payments may be found.

Another way is by asking for support from members of the state's congressional delegation where most of these public forest lands are found. Call Rep. Vicky Hartzler (R-4) at 202-225-2876, Rep. Billy Long (R-7) at 202-225-6536, Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (R-8) at 202-225-4404, Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-9) at 202-225-2958, Sen. Claire McCaskill (D) at 202-224-6154, and Sen. Roy Blunt (R) at 202-224-5721. Ask them to contact congressional House and Senate Budget Committee members, urging them to find a long-term solution that will ensure rural counties have the resources they need to provide basis services.

### Revenue Declines for Missouri's Top-10 SRSCA Counties

County	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 (Estimated)
Oregon	\$ 427,857	\$ 385,072	\$ 346,564	\$ 311,908	\$ 78,295
Shannon	\$ 413,952	\$ 372,557	\$ 335,301	\$ 301,771	\$ 22,277
Ripley	\$ 390,308	\$ 351,277	\$ 316,149	\$ 284,534	\$ 72,216
Washington	\$ 327,215	\$ 294,494	\$ 265,045	\$ 238,540	\$ 60,993
Wayne	\$ 321,659	\$ 289,493	\$ 260,544	\$ 234,489	\$ 65,501
Iron	\$ 316,083	\$ 284,475	\$ 256,028	\$ 230,425	\$ 70,921
Carter	\$ 303,511	\$ 273,159	\$ 245,844	\$ 221,259	\$ 67,191
Reynolds	\$ 282,070	\$ 253,863	\$ 228,477	\$ 205,629	\$ 66,643
Dent	\$ 230,800	\$ 207,720	\$ 186,948	\$ 168,253	\$ 53,903
Texas	\$ 207,557	\$ 186,802	\$ 168,122	\$ 151,309	\$ 36,678



# U.S. House Votes To Protect PILT Payments

**By Ryan Yates, NACo Associate  
Legislative Director**

The U.S. House of Representatives defeated an amendment to the FY11 Continuing Resolution (H.R. 1) Feb. 16 offered by Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), which would have cut funding to the Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program by 75 percent.

Upon learning of the amendment, NACo quickly developed an overnight grassroots campaign against the Kaptur amendment, which culminated in a vote of 394 - 32 in opposition.

During the House debate, Rep. Norm Dicks (D-Wash.) said, "I just want to rise in very strong opposition [to the Kaptur amendment]. Being a westerner, I have counties in my district that receive these payments. I think it's justified. I appreciate the fact that the new majority has tried to protect these payments." Rep. Jared Polis (D-Colo.) said of PILT: "This is not in any way, shape or form a giveaway to our counties. This is land we cannot tax, we cannot develop, we cannot benefit from. In fact, PILT payments are insufficient. They're too low to compensate for the burden of having all this land that's not part of our local tax base."

Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah) said, "PILT is not welfare; this is rent on the land [the Federal government] controls. To be honest, we'd rather have the land back, but until that time, pay for what you control."

In Missouri, Reps. Todd Akin (2<sup>nd</sup>), Russ Carnahan (3<sup>rd</sup>), Jo Ann Emerson (8<sup>th</sup>), Sam Graves (6<sup>th</sup>), Vicky Hartzler (4<sup>th</sup>), and Blaine Luetkemeyer (9<sup>th</sup>) all voted against the amendment. Only Reps. William Lacy Clay (1<sup>st</sup>), Emanuel Cleaver (5<sup>th</sup>), and Billy Long (7<sup>th</sup>)

voted for it. Please thank members of Congress who voted "no" on the Kaptur amendment for their continued support for county government.

As the only national organization that advocates on behalf of the PILT program, NACo

will continue to work diligently to maintain full funding for this program critical to sustaining local county governments.

*For additional information, please contact Ryan Yates, NACo associate legislative director, at [ryates@naco.org](mailto:ryates@naco.org).*

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# Courthouse Art And Artifacts

By Dennis Weiser

Missouri's county courthouses – the stomping grounds for the solemn circuit court judge, hard-nosed sheriff, and no-nonsense politician – have their artistic sides, too. In addition to their architectural features, our 114 courthouses and local jails contain many extraordinary folk art pieces, murals, plaques, monuments, and historic artifacts. These decorative pieces please the eye and warm our sometimes cool halls of justice, but they also deserve our attention because they uplift local community values and virtues.

These works of art and dedicated memorials fulfill one of our basic human needs – the urge to decorate our community's

meeting place and, in so doing, leave important and lasting messages for future generations. These works of art are represented in a variety of mediums: paintings and sketches, stone carvings and wrought

iron fixtures, calligraphic documents and hand-made furniture, bronze statues and murals. Some of these items were installed during construction but, sadly, their significance and the names of the journeyman masons, carpenters and itinerant artists employed in those projects may have not been recorded. Some have been added to the courthouse square in later years to commemorate important events and famous personalities but, even more sadly, those names and activities are now only vague memories – in effect rendering those pieces to the rank of mere curiosities. There is no blame here. Courthouses, after all, are places of business, not museums or historical sites.

Accordingly, courthouse “objets d’art” receive scant recognition. Preserved and appreciated mainly through the efforts of county historical societies and a few deter-



*Newton County's Courthouse murals record a timeline that illustrates the days when Native Americans roamed the land, the development of the county's local business and industries, and other important events. Courthouses in Clay, Newton and many other counties contain similar historically themed murals. The main courtroom in Pettis County is a veritable art gallery of famous personalities and historic actions.*

mined courthouse workers, most citizens consider them as quaint flotsam from a bygone age. The challenge of finding relevancy in our local values and history always is difficult – especially for our youth – but more so in an age fixated with hip-hop, flashy trends, and digital games.

To help address this problem, the art and artifacts in Missouri's courthouses should be systematically documented with photography and the written word in order to preserve them and what they represent in perpetuity. This idea is not new. The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) program was created to document historic buildings for the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression of the 1930s. That program was extremely successful and continues today under the direction of the Library of Congress. A record of Missouri's courthouses could be equally important and useful.

Therefore, a permanent collection – assembled under the leadership of the Missouri Association of Counties – deserves consideration by the MAC membership. Once in hand and securely stored, those files would be available for a wide variety of uses. High resolution digital photo files – including the buildings, as well as their artwork and memorials – could be accessed to create traveling displays for conventions, public school government class posters, and library and museum exhibits. Using available “publish on demand” services available from a number of vendors, books might be designed for individual or small-run purposes, such as gift items and high-impact legislative information.

Local art and artifacts deteriorate and may even disappear in relatively short time spans. Commissioning a professional collection of those pieces would be an excellent way for MAC to participate in preserving counties' histories, highlighting local folk art and artists, educating future generations, and strongly affirming the value of grass-roots governance in our dynamic and changing society.



*Statues that honor Missouri's Civil War veterans almost always feature a single soldier – Confederate or Union, depending upon the sentiments of the group that erected the memorial. Henry County took a different tact. Their memorial shows men from both sides of the conflict. County government is intensely patriotic and it is a rare courthouse that does not have numerous war memorials.*





Edwin Hubble lived in Webster County for nearly 10 years during his boyhood. The large 1:10 scale model of the Hubble Telescope at the courthouse indicates the size of the cosmic space instrument that was named in his honor. Many notable individuals who later in life achieved scientific, government, military or entertainment success are honored with memorials in Missouri's courthouses.



It took a strong wrist to punch sequential numbers using this pre-electric numbering machine at St. Francois County's courthouse. Historic pieces of furniture, office equipment, and fixtures continue to provide unique touches of character to courthouses and courtrooms.



A war memorial near the Audrain County Courthouse commemorates "Exercise Tiger," a large-scale rehearsal for the WWII invasion of Europe. Over 800 soldiers and sailors died and the military feared an adverse public reaction back home would overturn plans for the June 1944 landings in France.



Building a railroad line in the 19th century was a costly venture, but it was vital to a community's prosperity. In 1872, Cass County citizens were victimized by a railroad bond swindle. Ironically, two guilty officials tried to flee by train, but they were killed by a mob that halted the train. It took the county 50 years to pay off the bond debt.



A photograph of President William McKinley in full Masonic regalia hangs in the Cass County courtroom. Masonic lodges often held their meetings in the local courthouse. A portrait of Charles Parker hangs with the other Circuit Court judges in Nodaway County. Parker, the "True Grit" judge who sent his federal marshals after outlaws hiding in the Oklahoma Territory, sentenced over 100 criminals to the gallows.



Decorations, such as the stained-glass skylight in the old Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, elevate the building's architectural design. Such skylights were doubly functional because they not only provided light to a building's interior, but they also could be opened and closed for better ventilation.

(Right) A statue of David Rice Atchison (1807 – 1886) stands in front of the Clinton County Courthouse. Atchison, through a technicality, was the president for one day. Atchison also was a pro-slavery advocate. He led Bushwhackers against Jayhawkers during the "Bleeding Kansas" years that led to the Civil War. Similar statues of significant, but barely remembered, Missourians can be found in front of courthouses across Missouri.



## Another Missouri Courthouse Book May Be "In The Works"!

We're making a list!

Support this effort and tell us about your local courthouse artwork – paintings, sculptures, statues, murals, mosaics with inlaid bits of colored stone or glass.

Dennis Weiser, author of *Missouri Courthouses: Building Memories on the Square*, would like to write another book about the treasured pieces of artwork that can be found in some of our 114 courthouses. (See the accompanying photographs for examples.)

But first of all, he needs to know what's out there! If your courthouse has one or more significant pieces of artwork or an artifact that should be included in a permanent collection, please send your recommendation to Dennis Weiser at [missouricourthouses@yahoo.com](mailto:missouricourthouses@yahoo.com) (or send it to the MAC office at [info@mocounties.com](mailto:info@mocounties.com)). This could be a very worthwhile project!



## Reviewing Missouri's Updated County Data

County	Class	County Seat	Population	2010 Assessed Values	Sq. Miles
ADAIR	3	KIRKSVILLE	25,607	245,889,288	567
ANDREW	3	SAVANNAH	17,291	196,320,808	436
ATCHISON	3	ROCK PORT	5,685	106,221,649	560
AUDRAIN	3	MEXICO	25,529	324,238,164	692
BARRY	3	CASSVILLE	35,597	440,358,587	773
BARTON T(15)	3	LAMAR	12,402	173,780,525	597
BATES T(24)	3	BUTLER	17,049	182,661,215	849
BENTON	3	WARSAW	19,056	222,908,547	729
BOLLINGER	3	MARBLE HILL	12,363	108,934,965	621
BOONE	1	COLUMBIA	162,642	2,307,115,574	687
BUCHANAN	1	ST. JOSEPH	89,201	1,168,752,786	409
BUTLER	3	POPLAR BLUFF	42,794	491,731,804	698
CALDWELL T(12)	3	KINGSTON	9,424	113,903,793	431
CALLAWAY	1	FULTON	44,332	708,457,773	842
CAMDEN	1	CAMDENTON	44,002	1,525,785,067	641
CAPE GIRARDEAU	1	JACKSON	75,674	1,081,267,247	577
CARROLL T(21)	3	CARROLLTON	9,295	154,605,464	695
CARTER	3	VAN BUREN	6,265	49,619,281	509
CASS	1	HARRISONVILLE	99,478	1,323,860,216	702
CEDAR	3	STOCKTON	13,982	151,785,500	471
CHARITON T(16)	3	KEYTESVILLE	7,831	137,218,178	758
CHRISTIAN	2	OZARK	77,422	960,670,079	564
CLARK	3	KAHOKA	7,139	90,874,538	507
CLAY	1	LIBERTY	221,939	3,767,486,277	403
CLINTON	3	PLATTSBURG	20,743	260,938,589	423
COLE	1	JEFFERSON CITY	75,990	1,297,064,854	392
COOPER	3	BOONVILLE	17,601	214,111,586	566
CRAWFORD	3	STEELVILLE	24,696	266,597,434	744
DADE T(16)	3	GREENFIELD	7,883	95,660,398	491
DALLAS	3	BUFFALO	16,777	148,612,334	543
DAVIESS T(15)	3	GALLATIN	8,433	104,274,206	568
DeKALB T(9)	3	MAYSVILLE	12,892	114,080,172	425
DENT	3	SALEM	15,657	149,825,605	755
DOUGLAS	3	AVA	13,684	129,225,125	814
DUNKLIN T(8)	3	KENNETT	31,953	292,749,177	547
FRANKLIN	1	UNION	101,492	1,816,733,545	922
GASCONADE	3	HERMANN	15,222	211,685,459	521
GENTRY T(8)	3	ALBANY	6,738	79,955,302	493
GREENE	1	SPRINGFIELD	275,174	4,219,217,915	678
GRUNDY T(13)	3	TRENTON	10,261	105,747,781	437
HARRISON T(20)	3	BETHANY	8,957	97,518,746	725
HENRY T(19)	3	CLINTON	22,272	278,606,201	729
HICKORY	3	HERMITAGE	9,627	105,643,662	411
HOLT	3	OREGON	4,912	92,188,740	456
HOWARD	3	FAYETTE	10,144	104,915,428	464
HOWELL	3	WEST PLAINS	40,400	386,208,248	927
IRON	3	IRONTON	10,630	171,672,996	552
JACKSON	1	INDEPENDENCE	674,158	9,843,749,522	611
JASPER	1	CARTHAGE	117,404	1,552,713,612	641
JEFFERSON	1	HILLSBORO	218,733	2,902,298,637	668
JOHNSON	4	WARRENSBURG	52,595	515,917,730	834
KNOX	3	EDINA	4,131	66,183,553	507
LACLEDE	3	LEBANON	35,571	379,088,315	770
LAFAYETTE	4	LEXINGTON	33,381	386,543,964	632
LAWRENCE	3	MT. VERNON	38,634	398,837,808	614

JACKSON	1	INDEPENDENCE	674,158	9,843,749,522	611
JASPER	1	CARTHAGE	117,404	1,552,713,612	641
JEFFERSON	1	HILLSBORO	218,733	2,902,298,637	668
JOHNSON	4	WARRENSBURG	52,595	515,917,730	834
KNOX	3	EDINA	4,131	66,183,553	507
LACLEDE	3	LEBANON	35,571	379,088,315	770
LAFAYETTE	4	LEXINGTON	33,381	386,543,964	632
LAWRENCE	3	MT. VERNON	38,634	398,837,808	614
LEWIS	3	MONTICELLO	10,211	102,192,222	508
LINCOLN	2	TROY	52,566	634,642,599	627
LINN T(14)	3	LINNEUS	12,761	134,470,718	620
LIVINGSTON T(13)	3	CHILLICOTHE	15,195	158,225,533	537
MACON	3	MACON	15,566	179,083,699	797
MADISON	3	FREDERICKTOWN	12,226	111,202,185	497
MARIES	3	VIENNA	9,176	108,321,188	528
MARION	3	PALMYRA	28,781	342,992,615	438
McDONALD	3	PINEVILLE	23,083	270,647,103	541
MERCER T(9)	3	PRINCETON	3,785	57,168,975	454
MILLER	3	TUSCUMBIA	24,748	396,672,396	593
MISSISSIPPI	3	CHARLESTON	14,358	135,836,899	410
MONITEAU	3	CALIFORNIA	15,607	169,802,098	417
MONROE	3	PARIS	8,840	112,429,469	670
MONTGOMERY	3	MONTGOMERY CITY	12,236	190,055,175	540
MORGAN	3	VERSAILLES	20,565	468,061,443	594
NEW MADRID	3	NEW MADRID	18,956	391,312,998	679
NEWTON	2	NEOSHO	58,114	687,980,331	627
NODAWAY T(15)	3	MARYVILLE	23,370	284,814,002	875
OREGON	3	ALTON	10,881	82,086,722	792
OSAGE	3	LINN	13,878	181,014,936	606
OZARK	3	GAINESVILLE	9,723	100,700,763	731
PEMISCOT	3	CARUTHERSVILLE	18,296	173,821,656	517
PERRY	3	PERRYVILLE	18,971	290,555,025	473
PETTIS	4	SEDALIA	42,201	518,166,692	686
PHELPS	3	ROLLA	45,156	530,311,732	674
PIKE	3	BOWLING GREEN	18,516	251,379,338	673
PLATTE	1	PLATTE CITY	89,322	2,293,757,420	421
POLK	3	BOLIVAR	31,137	276,354,306	642
PULASKI	3	WAYNESVILLE	52,274	396,787,683	551
PUTNAM T(11)	3	UNIONVILLE	4,979	71,296,020	520
RALLS	3	NEW LONDON	10,167	170,188,279	481
RANDOLPH	3	HUNTSVILLE	25,414	411,125,415	473
RAY	3	RICHMOND	23,494	270,806,102	568
REYNOLDS	3	CENTERVILLE	6,696	182,544,587	808
RIPLEY	3	DONIPHAN	14,100	85,423,012	632
SALINE	4	MARSHALL	23,370	265,573,425	755
SCHUYLER	3	LANCASTER	4,431	38,911,090	308
SCOTLAND	3	MEMPHIS	4,843	57,038,682	439
SCOTT	3	BENTON	39,191	396,037,578	423
SHANNON	3	EMINENCE	8,441	66,096,617	1,004
SHELBY	3	SHELBYVILLE	6,373	92,493,872	501
ST. CHARLES	1	ST. CHARLES	360,485	7,440,240,063	558
ST. CLAIR	3	OSCEOLA	9,805	98,532,631	698
ST. FRANCOIS	2	FARMINGTON	65,359	646,807,490	451
ST. LOUIS	1	CLAYTON	998,954	23,646,944,630	505
STE. GENEVIEVE	3	STE. GENEVIEVE	18,145	398,112,257	504
STODDARD T(7)	3	BLOOMFIELD	29,968	383,077,371	815
STONE	3	GALENA	32,202	511,947,882	451
SULLIVAN T(12)	3	MILAN	6,714	80,552,032	651
TANEY	1	FORSYTH	51,675	1,041,643,207	608
TEXAS T(17)	3	HOUSTON	26,008	187,879,412	1,180
VERNON T(20)	3	NEVADA	21,159	220,128,083	837
WARREN	3	WARRENTON	32,513	521,407,157	429
WASHINGTON	3	POTOSI	25,195	216,790,374	762
WAYNE	3	GREENVILLE	13,521	121,244,087	763
WEBSTER	3	MARSHFIELD	36,202	328,186,422	594
WORTH	3	GRANT CITY	2,171	24,360,140	266
WRIGHT	3	HARTVILLE	18,815	155,995,708	682
ST. LOUIS CITY			319,294	4,563,217,873	61
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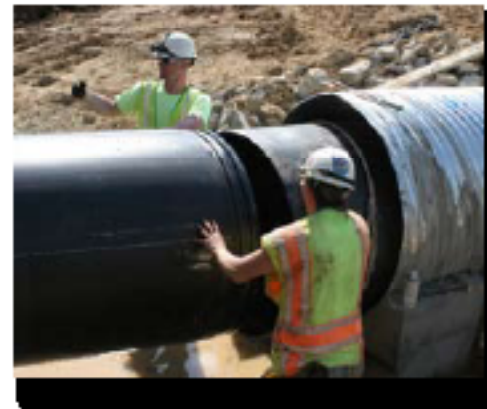
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# National County Government Month Award

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April is National County Government Month (NCGM). A new feature this year is the NCGM Award. Its purpose is to encourage counties to participate in National County Government Month and to recognize those counties that sponsor outstanding programs to educate citizens about county government during the month of April 2011. The entries will also be posted online and will serve as a database of ideas for other counties to use.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for the competition, the program must have been conducted by a current NACo member during the month of April.

**Criteria:** Programs will be judged on the following factors: citizen participation, involvement of elected officials, utilization of existing resources, amount of positive media coverage generated by the event(s), and how the program was promoted by the county (press releases, social media, utility mailers, etc.).

**Nominations:** Applications must be received by May 31, 2011, to be eligible for the competition. The winning counties will be recognized during the NACo Annual Conference at a general session. Three counties will be recognized – rural counties (population less than 100,000), suburban (population between 100,000 and 500,000), and metropolitan (population above 500,000).

**Judging:** A team of public relations professionals from the National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) will judge the applications and will select one winner in each category.

**Prize:** Each winning county will win two free registrations that could be used at any NACo conference. This prize is worth more than \$1,000.

**Application:** The application form is posted at [http://www.uscounties.org/cfiles\\_web/ncgm/ncgm\\_award.cfm](http://www.uscounties.org/cfiles_web/ncgm/ncgm_award.cfm).

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# The Missouri Transportation Alliance Works To Address Missouri's Dire Transportation Needs

The Missouri Transportation Alliance (MoTA) is a group (including MAC) of small business owners, first responders, cities, counties, local chambers of commerce and concerned citizens who share a common goal – to find a way to meet Missouri's urgent transportation needs. The number of cars and trucks on Missouri roads has doubled in the past 30 years. We must act now or face detours, delays and decaying roads and bridges. "Missouri can't keep families safe and expand the economy over the next decade without smart investment in our transportation infrastructure," said Bill McKenna, MoTA spokesperson and former Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission chairman.

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) has reliably delivered projects on time and on budget with the limited resources at its disposal. While this has been a benefit to Missourians, the time has come to address the needs that have been compounding over the past 20 years. Truck and vehicle traffic has doubled, yet resources have stayed the same.

Additional funding is necessary for road and bridge maintenance to prevent accidents and save lives. McKenna outlined the steps necessary to create safer roads and bridges, "...wider shoulders, more guard rails, expanded use of rumble strips, better signing and striping, and most importantly finding a way to deal with Missouri's growing number of obsolete or deficient bridges that are nearing failure. In order to save lives, protect our families and meet our responsibilities to the public, we need to see that MoDOT has adequate funding."

McKenna noted that past improvements have led to significant reductions in fatalities, but MoDOT has stressed that continued safety improvements are largely dependent on making smart investments in safety measures and transportation improvements.

In addition to improving the safety of our roads and bridges, transportation infrastructure invest-

ment will provide three important economic benefits to Missouri's ailing economy:

1. It will provide immediate economic activity in every region of the state as jobs are created to complete critical transportation projects and repair roads and bridges in disrepair.
2. It will provide the long-term infrastructure necessary for small businesses and communities to grow and create good-paying jobs and great places to live.
3. It will make Missouri much more competitive in the global competition to attract new businesses looking for new locations to expand.

Missouri small businesses are dependent upon a good transportation system to provide the crucial infrastructure to meet the demands of their customers, to survive and grow in a globally competitive marketplace. The current funding shortfall for MoDOT has stalled plans in nearly every community and region of the state that are vital to the economic future and well being of small businesses and residents.

"If Missouri wants to rebound from the recession, we need to double-down -- invest in our infrastructure -- that's the path to greater prosperity, job growth and economic vitality," said McKenna.

MoTA will be working with first responders, small businesses, transportation and community leaders, businesses and citizens to develop a funding solution over the next several months. To learn more about becoming an active supporter of the Alliance or to provide your input on how Missouri's transportation system can meet the safety and economic needs of Missouri, visit [www.missouritransportation.org](http://www.missouritransportation.org).

## How to get involved:

- Connect with MoTA via:
  - \* facebook @ Missouri Transportation Alliance
  - \* twitter @ motalliance
  - \* flickr @ motalliance
- Add a link from MoTA's website to your website or blog at [www.missouritransportation.org](http://www.missouritransportation.org).
- Become a stakeholder and encourage your business or organization to pass a resolution in support of MoTA.



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## Personnel Policy Handbook Now Includes “Social Media” Section

MAC's *Model Personnel Policies Handbook*, authored by Legal Counsel Ivan Schraeder, has recently been updated to include a section on Internet usage of Social Media.

The complete handbook may be found online at [www.mocounties.com](http://www.mocounties.com). In the left-hand sidebar of the homepage, choose the “Workers’ Comp Trust” option. This brings up a map of Missouri counties currently enrolled in the Trust. Scroll down under the map and choose the link to “Personnel Policies Handbook.”

The Internet usage of Social Media section is found in Art. 23.

Mr. Schraeder has devoted considerable time in devising his entire Internet/Electronic Mail Policy. It serves, however, only as a model for county commissioners to use in developing a Personnel

Policies Handbook.

In his opinion, a county should view the legitimate use of the Internet/e-mail system as potentially enhancing a large number of its functions and services being provided to the public. The

goal of the policy is to ensure the responsible and acceptable use of these resources. Such policy should apply to all employees, contractors, volunteers and other individuals who are provided access to these systems. *(continued on next page)*



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## Social Media *(Continued)*

The county should reserve the right to review any and all data, information or computer files stored in or sent to or from computers owned or supplied by the county. This includes any type of e-mail, Internet access usage, or other subscription services.

All data and other electronic messages within this system are the property of the county. This includes all of the material and information created, transmitted or stored on the equipment. There should be no expectation of privacy for any of the material or information. All users must realize that material or information that has been deleted can be retrieved and viewed by others. This also includes e-mail that has been deleted.

Department directors and elected officials may provide access to the Internet and/or e-mail systems for some employees. This capability should be provided on an as-needed basis and is a revocable privilege. Only the county-approved Internet provider should be used to access the Internet. Any additional hardware or software required for Internet access should be authorized by the information services administrator.

Sections in Art. 23 of Schraeder's *Model Personnel Policies Handbook* include the following:

- General Guidelines For Internet/E-mail Usage,
- An Internet/E-mail Policy Memorandum of Understanding,
- Professional Use of E-Mail, Voicemail and Word Processing Systems,
- Personal Use of E-mail and Voicemail,
- Personal Use of the County Computers Generally,
- Password [and Encryption Key] Security and Messages,
- Software Policy, and most recently
- Social Media.

## 9-1-1 Day At The Capitol



More than 70 public safety personnel from across the state met with Missouri legislators on Jan. 25 for 9-1-1 Day at the Capitol. This event was a collaborative effort by the Missouri National Emergency Number Association (MONENA), the Missouri Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (MOAPCO) and the Missouri 9-1-1 Directors' Association to unite 9-1-1 professionals from across the state to speak with one voice in Jefferson City. Public safety personnel from the MARC region spoke with legislators about important issues related to 9-1-1.

Missouri's emergency call centers, also known as Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), are working to keep up with public needs as more and more of the population turns to wireless devices to communicate. In 2010, Missouri PSAPs in the MARC region received twice as many 9-1-1 calls from wireless devices as landline phones. Even though such a high percentage of 9-1-1 calls come from wireless devices, currently only landline telephone customers in Missouri pay for 9-1-1 services. 9-1-1 funding continues to decline as the public cancels their wireline telephone service.

Since the state of Missouri does not have a 9-1-1 user fee on wireless devices, finding revenue sources to pay for equipment upgrades is a serious challenge. In fact, 18 Missouri counties outside the MARC region do not have enhanced 9-1-1 service (E911). E911 means that a 9-1-1 caller's location information and phone number are automatically delivered to the PSAP, details that can save time in an emergency situation when every second counts.

The goal of the Missouri 9-1-1 Directors' Association is to provide the same level of E911 service to all residents and visitors of Missouri.



*Lisa Schlottach, Gasconade County 9-1-1 director and president of the Missouri 9-1-1 Directors' Association, listens as Mike Kindie, Macon County 9-1-1 director, addresses the crowd on the south side Capitol steps.*

**"We need to educate our legislators that this is a dire straits, public safety issue.... The 9-1-1 folks, the public safety folks, need to be telling their legislators what needs to be done."**

**-- Mike Kindie,  
Macon County 9-1-1 director**



*Callaway County Associate Commissioner Doc Kritzer (left) and Shelby County Presiding Commissioner Glenn Eagan participate in the rally.*

Learn more about the trouble facing Missouri 9-1-1 centers at [Save911.org](http://Save911.org).

*This information was provided by the Mid-America Regional Council. Visit them at [www.marc.org](http://www.marc.org). Photos by Jay Shipman, MAC staff.*



# Union Pacific Railroad Reminds Public Works Employees To Heed Warnings At Grade Crossings

By Mark Davis, Union Pacific Media Contact

Each year hundreds of drivers are injured or killed when they do not heed the warning devices at railroad grade crossings. Because Union Pacific Railroad operates through hundreds of communities on nearly 1,500 miles of track in Missouri, train crews see many public works employees operating vehicles over crossings or near railroad tracks. Union Pacific urges Missouri public works employees to safely cross the tracks while they are working in their communities.

“As Missouri public works employees go about their jobs in their communities, we want to remind them to approach railroad crossings with caution and take the extra time to be sure a train is not near because you never know when a train will come along,” said Ben Jones, Union Pacific Railroad director of public affairs for Missouri and Kansas.

“It can take a mile or more to stop a train and by the time a locomotive engineer sees you on the track, it would be too late,” said John Simpson, manager of public safety.

“Locomotives and rail cars overhang the tracks by at least three feet on either side of the rail and loose straps hanging from rail cars may extend even further. If your truck or other machinery is too close to the tracks, you can be hit by the locomotive, a rail car or anything that may be hanging loose from the car,” added Simpson.

Last year, 12 people died and 22 were injured as a result of train/vehicle collisions in Missouri. In an effort to educate the public about grade crossing and pedestrian safety, UP established the Union Pacific Crossing Accident Reduction Education and Safety (UP CARES) program. Union Pacific is committed to public safety through various outreach channels such as community events, the media, Union Pacific Railroad police, employee resource groups, and Operation Lifesaver. The UP CARES public safety initiative brings together communities in a collaborative and caring effort to promote railroad grade crossing and pedestrian safety.

## UP CARES activities include the following:

- Grade crossing enforcement with local, county and state law enforcement agencies,
- Safety trains that provide local officials a first-hand look at what locomotive engineers see daily while they operate trains through a community, and
- Communication blitzes that educate the community at events or media outreach.
- Union Pacific also works closely with the national grade crossing safety program, Operation Lifesaver.

In 1972, when Operation Lifesaver began, there were approximately 12,000 collisions between trains and motor vehicles annually. By 2009, the most recent year for which preliminary statistics are available, the num-

ber of train/motor vehicle collisions had been reduced by approximately 84 percent to 1,900 collisions.

Do not become a railroad statistic; use caution when approaching and crossing railroad tracks.

## Safety Facts – Grade Crossings:

- UP has more crossings than any other U.S. railroad.
- UP has reduced grade crossing accident rates by 37 percent since 2001.
- UP has reduced grade crossing accident rates by 11 percent in 2009 vs. 2008.
- In 2009, UP held 523 CARE (Crossing Accident Reduction Enforcement) events across the country, where law enforcement officers and media are invited to ride trains to get a first-hand look at unsafe activity around crossings.
- 98 percent of our lead locomotives have train image recorders (TIRs).
- UP has more than 32,000 crossings on our system, including 10,000 equipped with gates.
- From 1980 through 2008, the number of grade crossing collisions fell 78 percent.
- Operation Lifesaver – a non-profit organization dedicated to public education about safety at railroad crossings and around railroad property – gave 32,000 presentations to 1.1 million people in 2009.
- A 100-car train going 55 mph takes a mile to stop.
- According to the FRA, in the U.S., there are 224,798 at-grade crossings, of which 137,659 (61 percent) are on public roads.
- States evaluate public crossings and decide what type of warning devices to install.
- A federal program called “Section 130” distributes \$220 million each year toward crossing improvements.
- The rail industry spends more than \$250 million each year keeping crossings in good repair and millions more on education programs.

## About Union Pacific:

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## Two Major Concerns For County Officials: Jobs & The Economy

Getting people back to work and revitalizing local economies are critical issues right now facing elected officials in every part of the state. That is why the Division of Workforce Development (DWD) is proud to sponsor an invaluable opportunity to learn about employment services available to your constituents and local businesses. The session *Understanding Your Role with the Local Workforce Investment Board* is being presented at the Missouri Association for Workforce Development's Conference on June 1-3, 2011, at Lake of the Ozarks Tan-Tar-A-Resort.

This year, the event has a special conference track for both local elected officials and workforce investment board members from the 14 local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) in the state of Missouri, recipients of federal funding through the DWD. As a presiding commissioner, learn how you and the WIB are responsible for developing policy and overseeing local workforce development initiatives. Come learn how to appoint members to your workforce investment region, what your oversight responsibilities are with these federal employment and training dollars, and as a presiding commissioner, determine how the dollars are best spent in your communities. This event will also include panel discussions on best practices for local regions, and a financial workshop geared for the elected officials and board members.

Attend this training and make sure you have the tools and information to make the best decisions for your regions' citizens and economy. Visit [www.mo-awd.org](http://www.mo-awd.org) or contact your local WIB Director to sign up for the conference. Do it today, while space is available!

*(See the ad on the next page)*

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## MAC President Debbi McGinnis Selected To Join County Leaders From Across U.S For Intensive Leadership Program

On April 1, the National Association of Counties (NACo) announced the selection of Debbi McGinnis, MAC President and Polk County Collector, as one of 22 county leaders from across the United States to participate in the eighth annual County Leadership Institute (CLI), a rigorous four-day program offered in partnership with Cambridge Leadership Associates. Nominated by MAC Executive Director Dick Burke as an official with a commitment to developing collaborative and innovative solutions to local issues, Debbi will meet at IBM's Institute for Electronic Government in Washington, DC, from June 5-9, 2011.

The Institute, now in its eighth year, has graduated 165 members from 40 states and 138 counties across the country. Known for enhancing the capacity of county officials to identify and implement innovative solutions to the complex challenges facing county government in the 21st century, this year's program will focus closely on the demands of personal leadership in a new era of government, one characterized as a "permanent crisis" by CLI Program Developer and Cambridge Leadership co-founder Marty Linsky.

"The county officials who participate in the Institute get information, ideas, and perspectives they

can't get anywhere else," said Larry Naake, executive director of NACo. "These county leaders not only discuss the core principles of public service leadership with prominent experts, they also collaborate intensively with each other to develop new ways to attack real-life issues of importance to the citizens of their counties."

In addition to developing skills and cultivating new perspectives of leadership, the Institute builds a network of CLI alumni who continue to offer support, suggestions and feedback across years and county lines. Classes meet daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and in four evening meetings. Program costs are offset by corporate and non-profit sponsoring organizations. Sponsors for 2011 include IBM, ESRI, NACo's Financial Services Corporation (FSC), and the National Council of County Association Executives.

***Reminder: Mark Your Calendars!***  
***MAC's Annual Conference & Trade Show***  
***will be held October 27-29, 2011.***  
***We look forward to seeing you there!***

The banner features a textured, parchment-like background. At the top, the acronym "MAWD" is written in large, bold, distressed letters. Below it, the full name "MISSOURI ASSOCIATION FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT" is written in a smaller, clean font. Two circular icons containing maps of Missouri are positioned on either side of the acronym. The central text reads "BLAZING THE TRAIL TO CHANGE" in a large, bold, serif font. Below this, the event details are listed: "Annual Conference", "June 1-3, 2011", "Lake of the Ozarks", and "Tan-Tar-A-Resort". In the bottom right corner, there is an image of a smartphone displaying a map with a route highlighted in purple. The phone screen shows "FIRST AVE", "2.5 mi", and "ETA: 6:40pm". A compass rose is visible in the bottom left corner. At the very bottom, the text "register at [www.mo-awd.org](http://www.mo-awd.org)" is displayed in a bold, serif font.



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