



THE Regional Report

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3
JANUARY 2023

STAY TUNED...

- **Brookfield Pesticide Collection April 15, 2023**
- **Board Meetings March 30, 2023**
- **SWD Contests**
- **Broadband Survey**
- **RISE Grant - Education and Credit Building Workshop in April**
- **2nd Annual Clerks Tea**

see website for
more details

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Jackie Soptic's Retirement!

GHRPC Assistant Director and life-long resident, Jackie Soptic retires after 33 years of dedication to the GHRPC. Jackie has managed Workforce Development Programs, Economic Development Activities, and has been instrumental in the success of countless infrastructure projects over the years.

Jackie is a motivated leader and has been engaged in countless activities, offering creative ways to support our local communities.

For GHRPC programs to thrive, she has built strategic alliances by developing and fostering partnerships. She's worked hard to build up those partnerships for the economic success of our job seekers, business and indus-

try associations, Chambers of Commerce, Federal, state, county and city agencies, Community-based organizations and Education and Training Providers.

Jackie's retirement will begin January 2023. She will be missed within the organization but the RPC will have her support moving forward and discuss ways to keep her engaged in other capacities in the future.

The GHRPC staff wishes her all the best in her retirement.



Show Me Jobs

The Show Me Jobs project, a new partnership between MO-SourceLink and Green Hills Regional Planning Commission fueled by \$727,919 in funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) Grant, will aim to create jobs, increase sales, start new businesses and spur more positive economic outcomes for five counties in the

rural Green Hills Region of north central Missouri over four years. The project will deliver technical assistance to build business capacity, increase supply chain connections, learn about agricultural business needs, connect entrepreneurs to resources and increase the visibility and awareness of value-added agricultural businesses and

resources. "This partnership and funding allows us to help more entrepreneurs and fuel the economic agricultural engines of our rural communities in north central Missouri," said Corinne Watts, Executive Director at Green Hills Regional Planning Commission. "We can't wait to see how this opportunity will strengthen the economy in the Green Hills Region."

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Show Me Jobs Project Continued...

The five counties included in this project are Grundy, Harrison, Mercer, Putnam and Sullivan. MOSourceLink and Green Hills RPC will be seeking partnerships within the communities in these counties to achieve the goals of the grant. Specifically, the four-year outcomes of the project include the following:

- 100 existing businesses will report increased capacity through the addition of new jobs, increased sales, increased knowledge and/or capital infusion.
- 20 new businesses and 150 jobs will be created.
- 5 businesses will access debt funds through revolving loan sources.

- 4 businesses will increase sales by becoming part of the supply chain for urban corporations.

MOSourceLink will offer its key services of monitoring and filling gaps in the entrepreneur ecosystem and connecting entrepreneurs to experts and key organizations in the massive statewide network of 680+ business-building nonprofits.

To increase jobs in the Green Hills Region, the project will take a variety of approaches. The organizations will work alongside community leaders to leverage entrepreneurship as an economic development tool and work to better understand business development and

workforce needs of the agribusiness cluster. Partners in the region will provide business-building technical assistance in startup, business planning, marketing, financing and other topics to startup and expanding businesses. Also, part of the program is increasing businesses' access to capital, increasing connections to the supply chain and increasing visibility and awareness of value-added agribusinesses. Networking events, educational workshops and other events will help connect entrepreneurs and service providers.

Workforce Success!



Amanda Felderman was recognized at the RPC's Annual meeting for her success! Amanda heard an announcement on the radio regarding the WIOA programs and thought this could be her opportunity to accomplish her dream. WIOA programs were able to assist her with tuition and travel expenses. She attended Wellspring School of Allied Health in Kansas City, MO and received her Massage License. In December of 2021 she started her own business.

In one of the updates Cathy received from Amanda, she shared how great things were going. Amanda was planning a grand opening and had just made a great purchase on a specialty massage table, which was going to be a great asset to her business and the services she was equipped to provide. In the end of Amanda's update she added, "I am truly thankful for this opportunity. And while this isn't where I saw myself two years ago when covid began, it is a blessing to be **right here** now. Thank you Cathy!"

Social Media...

Don't forget to "like" GHRPC's and the Job Center FB pages to keep up with current events and share new job openings with the community.



Transportation Brief

On November 29, 2022, a public meeting was hosted by MoDOT at the East Hills Library in St. Joseph, and the Northwest District's finalized unfunded needs list was presented and open for public comment. The list of projects in the Green Hills Region that are in the Tier 1 category, are:

1. Daviess Co - Rt BB - Bridge improvements over I-35
2. Livingston Co - US 36 - Intersection improvements at Mitchell Ave
3. Livingston Co - US 36 - Intersection improvements at Rt B near Wheeling
4. Livingston Co - US 65 - Bridge improvements over Shoal Creek



Meet the RPC's newest team members...

Kendall Reger is "happy to be starting his new position as an Assistant Planner for the Green Hills Regional Planning Commission!" Prior to accepting this position, he attended the University of Central Missouri, where he received his Bachelor of Science in Political Science. In particular, his studies focused on American Government and Public Administration. In addition to his education, he gained experience in industries including agriculture, construction, and local government. Kendall is originally from the Lake of the Ozarks area, and he states he "cannot express how wonderful it feels to be back in North Central Missouri!"



Colleen Hinshaw lives in Lineville, Iowa with her husband, Brent. They will be married 35 years next April. Colleen was born in Waynesville, MO. Her Dad was an Army Captain and they moved back to Rhode Island, where she was raised. Colleen met Brent in the Air Force, where they both served at Hahn Air Base in Germany. Brent was raised in Clearfield, Iowa. They have two sons, Coleman James (33), and Tyler Reed (32). Colleen served as the city clerk of Mercer for 14 years and obtained her water and wastewater certificates. Colleen stated she is "truly excited to be working with GHRPC."

RPC's 2022 Annual Meeting



Guest speakers were Keven Holcer and Dough Bonderer with ASB. Alexces Bartley with MOSourceLink also gave a presentation.



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The Green Hills Regional Planning Commission was formed in 1967 by Executive Order of Governor Warren E. Hearnes. This followed the passage by the Missouri General Assembly of the "State/Community Regional Development Act of 1966".

Governor Hearnes came to Trenton, MO in March, 1967 and signed the Executive Order creating the Green Hills Regional Planning Commission at a meeting held at the Trenton High School. The Regional Planning Commission was a nine-county organization from 1967 until 1992, when Chariton and Carroll Counties, MO, were added by Executive Order.

We're on the web!!
www.ghrpc.org

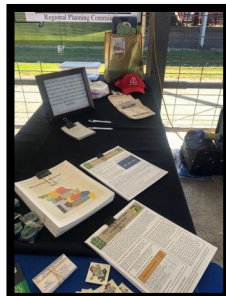
Successful Harrison Co. SWD Collection!

Harrison County held a SWD Collection October 29, 2022. There were 34 patrons that brought old household hazardous waste, electronics, appliances, and batteries.



SWD Booth at MO Days

North Mo Solid Waste Management District set up a booth at the Missouri Days Festival to promote recycling in our district.



**Don't forget
to "like"
NMSWMD's
FB Page!**

