

Sharing In Success

Issue 2, October 4, 2006



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Buxton Group to Meet With Developers and City Officials

In an effort to bring more retail development to Union to serve the needs of our growing community, the City of Union is sponsoring an evening with the Buxton Group on October 16th, 7:00 pm at East Central College Regional Training Center. The Buxton Group is a well-respected retail identifying firm which specializes in uniting retailers and communities throughout the United States, including several communities in Missouri.

The Buxton Group is proposing to define Union's retail trade area, identify which retail stores individuals and families in Union are spending their income and on what products they are purchasing. The Buxton Group is the world's largest purchaser of consumer data information, allowing the Buxton Group to get a clear picture of the retail potential in our city. Once the demographic and "psychographic" information is compiled, Buxton will then match our community with 10 retailers and restaurants that "fit" our community.

Local and regional developers, local banks, large parcel landowners, industry officials, Union Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Union Development Corporation members, City officials have all been invited to learn more about this exciting opportunity. If you are interested in attending, please send us an email at development@ci.union.mo.us with "Buxton" in the subject line to RSVP.

Please Complete Labor Market Survey

The City of Union, in cooperation with the cities of Washington, Pacific, Sullivan, Franklin County Government, and Ameren, is sponsoring a **Labor Market Survey** to determine the quality of our labor force and the availability of potential employees in Franklin County and several adjoining counties. The survey is being conducted by Growth Services, a consulting firm located in Jefferson City whose expertise is labor studies.

The survey, which was mailed to over 100 local businesses in Union, will be used to determine the quality of labor in Franklin County and wage information for several job classifications. This information then can be used by local industries/businesses to allow them to be more competitive in recruiting employees and allow potential new employers to get a better feel for our labor market.

Another aspect of the **Labor Market Survey** will be contacting citizens, via telephone, of Franklin County who travel outside of our county everyday to

other areas for employment and discovering what it would take to keep them from commuting elsewhere and finding employment within Franklin County.

If you have received the **Labor Market Survey** recently and have not completed the form and returned it, please take the time to do so. Currently, less than 5% of Union businesses have completed the survey. The survey should not take too much of your time and **ALL** information is kept confidential. Having a clear picture of our labor market is an extremely important aspect of economic development; retaining industries/businesses and recruiting new industries and businesses. Your complete cooperation will give the City of Union and Franklin County a competitive edge.

If you have any questions or have misplaced your survey and need another, please feel free to contact Joseph A. Graves, City of Union Community Development Director, at City Hall, 636-583-3600.

If your company or business has an event, has won an award or would like to be featured in this bi-monthly newsflash, "Sharing in Success," contact Joseph Graves or Wanda Parsons at development@ci.union.mo.us or call us at 636-583-3600.

Congratulations to AmerenUE—Union Operating Center on Safety Achievement



Ken Schmidt, Manager of Ameren's Union headquarters, announced that the Franklin Operating Center in Union, with a total of 51 employees, met a significant safety milestone on September 20 — **They have completed four years without an accident that resulted in a lost workday.** As of that date, employees had reached 1,446 days

without a lost workday accident, or 409,150 safe man-hours. "We must continue to stay focused on safety, so all our employees go home to their families, safe and injury free, at the end of each day. That's what our safety effort is really all about," says Manager Ken Schmidt.



"Union, MO...The Possibilities Are Endless"

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