

BRADLEY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

2015 !!!!

Welcome to 2015!

This promises to be a very good year for Warren and Bradley County. Let's set our goals for the New Year and set our plans in motion to accomplish them.

- BCEDC will continue to work closely with current industrial prospects. BCEDC has provided information to 4 prospects in the last eight months. These prospects have indicated that they will make a decision on further interest, early in 2015. One prospect is very close to making a decision about locating in Warren. Manufacturing is predicted to grow in 2015 and BCEDC wants to be a part of that growth.
- BCEDC will continue working with Bradley County's existing businesses and industries. Existing businesses are our community's lifeblood. BCEDC is very aware that without the continued success of our existing businesses and industries our community would suffer extreme financial setbacks. BCEDC and SEACBEC will continue working together to identify and develop the training needs of existing companies.
- BCEDC will continue to market Warren's available industrial sites and buildings. Two web sites are utilized as marketing tools for the available industrial properties, www.arkansassiteselection.com and

www.bcedcar.com. BCEDC has placed an ad in the national magazine, "Trade & Industry Development". The ad will run in the Jan./Feb. 2015 issue which is featuring Arkansas' agriculture and food processing industries. In addition to the ad the issue will contain an article highlighting Warren and Bradley County's agricultural and poultry industries. As a print and online publication, this "Trade & Industry Development" issue will reach 25,000 readers. Visit the online version in late January at www.tradeandindustrydev.com.

- BCEDC will continue to work with the Southeast Regional Intermodal Authority. SEARIA is entering their final stage of development with the construction of the elevated 750,000 water tank, which will be completed in 2015. Locating a major industry at the Intermodal site will produce a significant positive economic impact on Warren.

The BCEDC Mission Statement is "To enhance and sustain the economic climate of Bradley County by increasing the employment opportunities for the residents of the county". BCEDC's #1 goal is to use this Mission Statement to guide our actions and work for the residents of Bradley County.

Manufacturing in 2015

In recent years the future for manufacturing growth in America has not been bright. We have seen many of our industries moved off shore to take advantage of lower labor cost and lower operating cost. This has created increased difficulty for small communities like Warren, to compete for the reduced number of new manufacturing facilities.

In 2014 this began to improve. The prediction is that manufacturing jobs will continue to return to America in 2015, "Reshoring". Manufacturing is expected to return from overseas, but at a slower rate than in 2014.

Contributing factors to this reshoring is the abundance of low-cost natural gas, the increase in wages for overseas worker, especially in China and the cost of transportation from the manufacturing facility to the consumer. The November 2014 National Purchasing Managers Index number of 58.7 leads to a prediction of between a 4% and 5% growth in domestic manufacturing for 2015. Due to reshoring and interest from foreign companies, Warren and Southeast Arkansas has seen an increase in industrial prospects in 2014. Based on the above information we hope to (continued)

HOW CAN BCEDC HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES?

BCEDC can help your business in such areas as:

- Land and building acquisitions
- Financial packaging
- Demographic and economic data
- Incentive packaging
- Workforce training
- Plant expansions
- Entrepreneurial and small business development

BCEDC Is Affiliated With:

- Southeast Arkansas Cornerstone Coalition
- Southeast Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority
- Arkansas Heavy Equipment Training Program
- Southeast Arkansas Community Based Education Center
- Arkansas Small Business and Technology Dev. Ctr. @UAM
- Bradley County Chamber of Commerce

January 2015— Jobs Update		
Bradley Co. Employers	# Emp.	Openings
AR Superior Federal CU	13	0
Armstrong Flooring	251	1+
Ashcraft Wood Products	20	0
Bradley Brand Furniture	5	3
Bradley County	68	0
Bradley Co. Medical Ctr.	253	11
Chapel Woods Health & Rehab	unavailable	unavailable
City of Hermitage	6	0
City of Warren	52	1
First Presbyterian Childcare Ctr	22	0*
First State Bank of Warren	31	0
Fulghum Fibers	10	0
Hermitage Schools	82	0
New Beginnings, CASA	18	0
Oasis Trading	44	0
OK Foods	15	1
Ouachita Hardwood	41	0*
Ozark Mountain Poultry	230	1
Potlatch	161	8
SE AR Community Action Corp.	86	3
SE AR Human Dev. Ctr.	279	18
Super Valu Foods	57	1**
The Mad Butcher	63	2***
Townsend Flooring	30	0*
UAMS/KIDS FIRST—Warren	19	0
Union Bank	8	0
Warren Bank & Trust	38	0
Warren School Dist.	296	2
TOTAL	2199	52

*Taking Applications **Applications on Thur. ***Applications on Mon., 1-4 pm

Continued—Manufacturing

continue increased activity from industrial prospects in 2015. . The more prospects we have interested in our area, the more chances we have to locate a new industry in our area.

One thing that has changed and will continue to change in manufacturing is the reduction of employees needed to operate the facilities. The growth of robotics in manufacturing is changing the face of manufacturing. Other trends in 2015 and forward are wireless connectivity, 3D printing and the Internet of Things (IoT). Wireless connectivity and the Internet of Things may not yet be household terms but we will soon be hearing more about them. Basically, wireless connectivity is the use of sensors in equipment to process information coming from the equipment. The Internet of Things is the connection of devices in industrial equipment onto a network,

JOB OPENINGS AT:

Armstrong Flooring: Has Ongoing True Temp production worker positions. The positions are typically long term with the possibility of becoming perm. Interested candidates apply at ESA in Monticello. Permanent positions may be found at www.armstrong.com as they become available.

Bradley Co. Medical Center: Has job openings for 10 F/T and 1 P/T Position. For information on job openings and to apply go to — www.bradleycountymedicalcenter.com/jobs

OK Foods: Has a job opening for a Warehouse Operator. For details and to apply visit <https://career8.successfactors.com/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobId=302&company=C0001099501&username>

Ozark Mountain Poultry: Contact the Arkansas Workforce Center in Monticello, AR at 870-367-7105 for employment information.

Potlatch Corporation: Has openings for laborers, millwrights and electricians. Positions are open for a Senior Accountant and a Preventative Maintenance Supervisor. Apply at www.potlatchcorp.com. Potlatch is an EEO/AA /Veteran employer with competitive wages and benefits.

SE AR Community Action Corp.: Has openings for 2 Head Start Teaching Asst. (Dermott &

enabling information gathering and management of these devices via software to increase efficiency. The use of technologies reduce the need for employees for the maintenance and the evaluation of machinery. These technologies save companies' costly repairs and replacement costs by perceiving and evaluating problems before high cost are incurred.

This being said, industries will still need a workforce. The new workforce is a skilled workforce. The use of automation in manufacturing facilities require employees with training in software use, software engineering, computer programing and robotics. It is extremely important in industry recruitment for Warren and Bradley County to prepare our workforce. Without a workforce trained in these skillsets we cannot compete nationally or locally for new industry. The most

HOW CAN BCEDC HELP

BCEDC

110 N. Myrtle St.
Warren , AR 71671

Phone: 870-226-3760

Fax: 870-226-3770

websites:

www.bcedcar.com

arkansassitesselection.com

E-mail:

bradleycountyidc@sbeglobal.net

Crossett) and a Center Director in Lake Village. Application Deadline 1/16/15. Call 870-226-2668. Visit www.bcedcar.com for details.

SE AR Human Development

Ctr.: For job openings information go to www.ark.org/arstatejobs/index.php

The Mad Butcher: Has openings for 2 F/T Meat Department positions. Applications taken at The Mad Butcher on Mon. from 1-4 pm.

Warren School Dist.: Has an opening for a F/T Food Service Worker and 1 F/T Custodian. For details on job openings and to apply contact the Warren School Dist at 870-226-6738 or online at www.edline.net/pages/warren_sd

important incentive we can offer an industrial prospect is a trained workforce. The community can give very generous financial incentives like land, tax breaks and infrastructure improvements, but without the skilled workers to operate their facility they will not locate in the area.

BCEDC and SEACBEC are both very aware of the need to provide a trained, skilled workforce. We are working with existing businesses and industries to identify the current training needs. SEACBEC is continually searching for innovative training programs.

MONDAY MORNING MEETING

EVERY MONDAY AT 7:00 AM
MOLLYS DINER

YOU ARE INVITED!