

Monday Minute News and information to start your week Week beginning March 16, 2015



Happy St. Patrick's Day on Tuesday

As my friend and co-host of WBBA's Twin Pikes Report Martha Sue Smith says, on St. Pat's Day everybody is Irish! So eat some Corned Beef & Cabbage or Irish Stew, wear green for good luck, kiss a Leprechaun, and maybe even drink some green beer. May the Luck of the Irish be with you!

National Agriculture Day

Wednesday is National Agriculture Day, hosted by the Agriculture Council of America (ACA). This will mark the 42nd anniversary of National Ag Day which is celebrated in classrooms and communities across the country. The theme for National Ag Day is "Agriculture: Sustaining Future Generations."

National Agriculture Day marks a nationwide effort to tell the true story of American agriculture and remind citizens that agriculture is a part of all of us.

The National Ag Day program encourages every American to understand how food and fiber products are produced; appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products; value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy; and acknowledge and consider career opportunities in the agriculture, food and fiber industry.

Illinois Farm Bureau and utilities presentation

If you missed the Landowners meeting hosted by the Pike County Farm Bureau for its members on March 11, you can click <http://tinyurl.com/Harmon-Presentation> to view the power point slides of Laura Harmon's presentation. This was in regard to the Grain Belt Express and Dakota Access Pipeline projects.

Community Foundation offers webinar regarding the online application process

The Community Foundation's Competitive Grants Program will accept applications in the areas of arts and culture, community betterment, education, health, and human services.

In addition, grant applications are being accepted for the first time from the Pike County Endowment Fund. The Fund will award \$ 1,500 in grants for charitable organizations and programs in Pike County. The County Endowment Fund was established with the Community Foundation Serving West Central Illinois & Northeast Missouri after it fulfilled a match opportunity to fully endow the fund. Earnings from the endowment will benefit organizations, projects and programs in the county forever.

Online applications for the Pike County Endowment Fund must be submitted at mycommunityfoundation.org by June 1, 2015. Organizations must be classified as IRS 501(c)(3) or a government unit to apply.

A local, volunteer County Fund Council will review grant applications and provide funding recommendations from the Pike County Endowment Fund. To learn more about grants and the Pike County Endowment Fund, contact our office.

If your schedule did not permit you to attend one of the tutorial workshops offered last week regarding the online application process, there is an online webinar coming up on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Register here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4526333494422002946>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.