

A weekly email from the [Appalachian Regional Commission](#)

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In the Region



A WEEKLY SNAPSHOT OF NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND OTHER
TIDBITS FROM THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

ARC NEWS ROUNDUP | August 8, 2019 | VOLUME 4, ISSUE 30

ARC SPOTLIGHT



Congressman Matt Cartwright joined ARC, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Affairs and NEPA Alliance in announcing a Local Access Road grant in Taylor, Pennsylvania.

Paving the way for business growth in Pennsylvania

The Stauffer Industrial Park in Taylor, Pennsylvania is home to 17 businesses and services, including locally owned distributors and warehouses, the National Guard, and USDA field offices. Thousands of vehicles travel in and out of the site daily. ARC Federal Co-Chairman Tim Thomas, U.S. Congressman Matt Cartwright, Sheri Collins, Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PADCED), and NEPA Alliance President & CEO Jeffrey Box were in Taylor today to announce an ARC Local Access Road grant to improve business park access. The investment, matched by PADCED funds and other sources, will help retain/create over 2,800 jobs, and pave the way for potential business expansion in Stauffer. “This is a model of how state and federal funding can meld together to help our region,” said Congressman Cartwright.

The [NEPA Alliance](#), which helped facilitate the grant, is one of ARC’s seven local economic development agency partners in Pennsylvania. NEPA offers business financing, government contracting assistance, international trade assistance, transportation planning, and local government services in Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Schuylkill and Wayne counties. As part of his trip to Pennsylvania, ARC Federal Co-Chairman Thomas visited Finch Manufacturing and Technology, a West Pittston company which has been manufacturing large equipment and specialized parts for over 150 years. This year, Finch was named NEPA’s “Client of the Year”, an annual award bestowed to a business whose practices and professional conduct is beneficial to federal, state and local governments; conducts business in a professional and ethical manner; reinvests in the local economy and its people; and helps to promote Northeastern Pennsylvania as a vibrant place in which to do business.



INVESTMENTS IN ACTION



Base Camp Coding Academy is using ARC support to transform an abandoned garment factory into a multi-used facility to expand workforce training, establish a tech business incubator and more.

Photo: [Base Camp Coding Academy](#)

Base Camp Coding Expands in Mississippi

Census data indicates that in Yalobusha county, Mississippi, twenty percent of residents do not have a high school diploma and only 14 percent of residents have a bachelor's degree. The [Base Camp Coding Academy](#) (BCCA), a non-profit learning center, is the county's only education center offering career training specifically for these students. Based in Water Valley, BCCA was initially launched in 2016 in partnership with [Northwest Community College](#) (NWCC). Since then, BCCA has graduated scores of certified coders, many of whom already with jobs offers in their pockets.

Yalobusha is one of the few counties included in both ARC's and the [Delta Regional Authority's](#) (DRA) footprint. With support from each agency, BCCA is retrofitting an abandoned local garment factory into a multi-use facility to accommodate the program's growth, expand workforce training offerings, establish a tech business incubator, and provide office space to BCCA's business network. The joint investments will also help BCCA leverage tax credits, brownfields remediation funds, and additional private contributions. "This investment will help BCCA scale to meet the needs of regional employers, strengthen talent pipelines, and create more job opportunities for our region's residents," said DRA Federal Co-Chairman Chris Caldwell. "DRA is

proud to partner with the Appalachian Regional Commission to invest in our shared footprint in north Mississippi. Our partnership is as strong as it has ever been, and I commend Chairman Thomas for his leadership and commitment to our common goal.”



Web Contractor Needed

ARC seeks proposals from qualified contractors to provide Website Design, Development, and Content Migration services for arc.gov.

[Read the RFP](#). Proposals are due at 5 pm ET on **September 16, 2019**.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Join Our Team!

ARC is recruiting for a number positions, including a **Content Writer, Program Support Assistant and Program Analyst [Infrastructure]**.

The [Content Writer](#) will serve as ARC's lead writer and editor, working with the communications team to tell compelling stories through press releases, web materials, newsletters, speeches and other materials amplifying ARC's mission and efforts.

The [Program Support Assistant](#), a federal position, will coordinate a variety of administrative and programmatic functions and act as a central point of contact for the Office of the Federal Co-Chair.

The [Program Analyst \[Infrastructure\]](#) will manage federal grants and provide technical assistance to communities and potential grant applicants on strategic infrastructure-related investments.

For more information on this position, visit www.arc.gov/careers.

APPALACHIA IN THE NEWS

[Millstone Kitchen is cooking](#), *The Roanoke Times*, Roanoke, Virginia

[ETSU to house Center for Rural Health Research](#), *The Business Journal*, Johnson City, Tennessee

[Boliviar Creates First Strategic Plan](#), *Wellsville Daily Reporter*, Wellsville, New York

[Pennsylvania Promotes Playbook for former coal plant site](#), Energy News Network

[How a rural virginian town is using entrepreneurship to boost its local economy](#), Brookings Institution

UPCOMING EVENTS

Finance + Arts Webinar Series

Session One: Finance and the Arts, Tourism & Agribusiness

11:30 am - 12:45 pm

August 14

Appalachia Strong: An ARC Summit

Asheville, North Carolina

September 4 - 6

2019 National HBCU Week Conference

Washington, D.C.

September 8 - 10

Federal Student Aid Partner Summit - Appalachian Region

If interested, please email maisha.challenger@ed.gov

Morehead, Kentucky

September 26

Alabama-Mississippi Rural Tourism Conference

Natchez, Mississippi

October 21 - 23

Appalachian Gateway Communities Regional Workshop

Bristol, TN

November 5 - 7

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is an economic development agency of the federal government and 13 state governments focusing on 420 counties across the Appalachian Region. ARC's mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia to help the Region achieve socioeconomic parity with the nation.



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