

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Bedford County Office of Economic Development. Don't forget to add tblido@bedfordcountyva.gov to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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Bedford Business First

News from Bedford County Office of Economic Development - August 2016

Bedford County by the numbers

May 2016

Laborforce	37,458
Employed	36,094
Unemployment rate	3.6%
Advertised jobs	326*

*Advertised jobs in Bedford County - VEC July 2016

About our office

The Office of Economic Development is responsible for planning, developing, and directing business and economic development programs and services in Bedford County, Virginia.



Traci Blido

Director
540-587-5670 ext. 1371
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Governor seeks input on broadband gaps

If you haven't already completed the survey that was published by the state to better understand where Virginia has the largest gaps in broadband coverage, please [TAKE THE SURVEY](#) ASAP.



See the [original press release](#).

International cyber security initiative launches at the CAER

We recently announced that a new international cyber security organization, known as the International Critical Infrastructure Security Institute (ICISI), will operate from the CAER to benefit the power generation industry.



The Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission (TRRC) recently authorized a \$40,000 grant to assist the CAER and Bedford Co. in this project. Its mission is to certify organizations' performance-based strategies from cyber-based threats. [Full press release here](#).

Mark your calendars for our final Quarterly Business Roundtable meetings

- Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2016 at the Center for Advanced Engineering & Research (CAER)* **NOTE CHANGE**
- Thurs., Dec. 8, 2016 at the Bedford Welcome Center



All roundtables take place from 8:30 - 10 a.m. and we serve a light breakfast. It's a great chance to discuss topics with fellow business leaders in the County.



Jessica Hupp
 Business Programs
 Coordinator
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Then 'Like us' on Facebook! We post regularly to keep you up to date on projects taking place in the community, continuing education opportunities, and more! You can find us [here](#).



Noteworthy News:

Bower Center re-opens after renovations



[View press release.](#)

Bedford Artisan Trail releases new video

Eagle Scout brings attention to Montvale Park



Aspiring Eagle Scout Jared O'Brien, age 16, recently completed a community project to create and install a Montvale Recreational Park wayfarer sign at the entrance of the EDA-owned Montvale Center for Commerce, along Rt. 460 in Montvale. [Read more.](#)

Bedford Farmers Market SNAP program exceeds expectations

According to Bedford Farm Market Manager Paul Stern, the Bedford Community Health Foundation and Centra Bedford Memorial Hospital, provided a matching grant and cash contribution to the SNAP program at the market to provide a way for qualifying residents to double their dollars to buy fresh, locally grown foods for their families. The funds quickly ran out and the Foundation replenished the account this week so the success could continue all season long.



[Read full article.](#)

The Bedford County Fair is just around the corner!

The Bedford County Fair, which will take place September 1-4, 2016, will be even bigger and better than last year! In addition to the fair competitions and mid-way rides by Cole Amusements, the Fair has added a Miss Bedford County Fair Pageant, a Youth Livestock Show, and a host of educational displays such as Southland Dairy's mobile classroom. See full schedule [here](#).



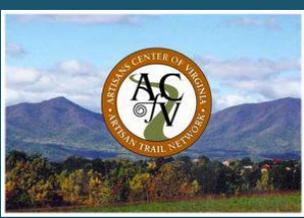
To learn more or become a vendor or sponsor, visit BedfordCoFair.com!

Bedford Main Street receives accreditation



Bedford Main Street has been designated as an accredited Main Street America™ program for meeting rigorous performance standards set by the National Main Street Center. One of Main Street's efforts is preservation-based economic development and community revitalization through the Main Street Approach®.

Jessica Hupp, Business Programs Coordinator, serves on the Main Street Board of Directors. [Read more.](#)



[View video.](#)

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