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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CCEDC TO HOST INFORMATIONAL FORUMS
Citizens urged to ask questions concerning impact analysis

WYNNE – The Cross County Economic Development Corp. will host a series of three events in October to allow county citizens to ask questions about a recent study.

Arkansas State University’s Delta Center for Economic Development completed a 21-page economic impact analysis detailing the effectiveness of a 1-cent funding initiative for economic development that was passed by county voters in 1999. The third-party study showed that the county received a return of investment of more than \$25 per dollar spent on economic development based on a number of economic factors.

“This study is crucial in showing just how effective the funding has been for the county,” said Aaron Stewart, executive director of the CCEDC. “In addition to the return on investment, the funding also helped us create 746 new direct jobs and 106 new indirect jobs for a total increase of 852 jobs for our local employment by assisting two new companies and eight existing industries with expansion efforts. The voters of Cross County should be commended for investing in their local economy to make sure that the county maintains its quality standard of living.”

The study is available in its entirety at www.crosscountychamber.com with a link at the bottom portion of the website’s home page. To answer any questions that citizens may have in regard to the study, the CCEDC will work with its local media outlets to create three separate forums for residents.

In his “Economically Speaking” column that is featured on a regular basis in the *Wynne Progress*, Stewart will answer questions selected by *Progress* Editor Joe Halm in the Friday, Oct. 24 edition of the newspaper. Halm will review questions that are sent to him by e-mail at Wynnenews@cablelynx.com.

Also on Oct. 24, Stewart will also join the staff of KWYN on “Yawn Patrol” to

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discuss the study and take listener questions. He will be on the air sometime after 7 a.m. on AM 1400. Listeners may call in at (870) 238-8141 with their questions.

Citizens will have one final chance to ask questions about the study in a public setting on Monday, Oct. 27 from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Bill Thomas Building, 1790 North Falls Blvd. in Wynne. The forum will occur at the building's exhibition hall.

"I look forward to discussing this study with our citizens through all three avenues," said Stewart. "I hope everyone who is interested has a chance to be involved in one of the three informational forums. However, should someone not be able to participate during the three events, I urge them to contact my office at any time to discuss the study."

For more information on the CCEDC and Cross County Chamber of Commerce, please visit www.crosscountychamber.com.

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