## **Local Schools**

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## Three Rivers Breaks Their Enrollment Records

FEBRUARY 17TH 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

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Three Rivers College is happily celebrating the number on their enrollment records for the spring semester. This year's spring semester started last month on January 14<sup>th</sup> with a total of 4,310 students and had over 46,000 credit hours registered for my students. The total enrollment of the spring classes at the main campus in Poplar Bluff and the branches located in Kennett, Dexter, Malden, Sikeston, and Cape Girardeau increased by 2% and the total classes that were registered for increased by 8%.

This is truly an outstanding record set by the local college and it is exciting to see the college expanding and growing in more ways than one. This has been an exciting year for Three Rivers as they just launched their brand new Physical Therapy Assistant Program, along with introducing their newest scholarship for nursing students, and now they are preparing to open their new Academic Resource Center in Poplar Bluff at the main campus in May. Now, as the college prepares to celebrate their 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary in early April, they can also celebrate the new semester, students, and programs as well.

Three Rivers was labeled in a recent "Community College Week" as one of the fastest growing community college. During last year's fall semester, the Three Rivers Branch in Sikeston had all of its classes completely overtaken by eager students and the class-size limit had been maxed out. The teachers and members of Three Rivers are astounded by the growth and goals that have been reached over the past few years.

The growth of the college has jumped up tremendously and they have nearly broken their previous records every year. With many different branches and ITV classes offered at other colleges and high schools, Three Rivers is expanding quickly and efficiently. The needs of both high school and college students are recognized and met by the local college. In fact, TRC is going to continue to expand and is preparing to hold a groundbreaking ceremony in March for their new Eastern Campus in Sikeston.

The Sikeston Branch is completely full this year and is continuing to grow quicker and quicker each semester as demand for career training and credit hours has shot up around the local area. Not only has the

Sikeston Branch expanded tremendously, but so has the branch in Dexter. Dexter's TRC Center has grown by 52% since last year as the TRC Center is Kennett has grown by 28%.

With many scholarships, workshops, tutoring, and other aids offered to the students, it's no mystery why the numbers have skyrocketed. The college believes that classes and branches will continue to grow over the next couple of years and that they will provide even more services than before for the surrounding communities.

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