

Embarras River History

Chartered in 1965, the Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc., is an Illinois Not for Profit 501(c)(3) Corporation dedicated to providing services to address the needs of the low-income communities in the nine county area served by the Agency. ERBA is a Community Action Agency organized to administer grants and other programming for the target population of low-income citizens of all ages. ERBA provides services and administers grants for the following counties: Clark, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Jasper, Lawrence, and Richland.

ERBA is governed by a Board of Directors composed of Public Officials, Low Income Representatives, and Representatives of the Private Sector. The Board strives in it's endeavors to promote the interest of the communities in which ERBA is operating, with an emphasis on empowering low-income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency.

ERBA MISSION STATEMENT

THE EMBARRAS RIVER BASIN AGENCY, INC. IS DEDICATED TO SERVING THE NEEDS OF AT-RISK, LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES.

The common goal of all programs within the Agency

is to foster community involvement, professional partnerships, and trust between all entities. The Agency and staff members are committed to providing life skills that will assist individuals and families to attain a higher level of self-sufficiency and a better quality of life.

County Museum

The Newton Public Library District and Museum is located at 100 South Van Buren on the square in Newton. The museum has been recently renovated. The museum began with the "Schackmann Collection," a collection of almost 200 items that had been started by Henry and Frank Schackmann, two druggists from Newton's early days.

In 1966, the museum was opened to the public and has been accepting interesting articles from Jasper County residents ever since. Today, the museum is located behind the public library and the door is marked with a plaque honoring the Newton Woman's Club, the organizers of the museum. The library which now has newspapers, an internet service and inter-library loans, is open Mon., Wed. & Fri. 10-5, Tues & Thurs. 10-7, Sat. 10-1:00. For more information, call 783-8141.



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