

The Chamber Business Journal

September 2015

Doing what most people think just happens!

306 N. Main, McPherson, Kansas 67460 • Phone: 620-241-3303 • www.mcphersonchamber.org • Visit us on Facebook

WELCOME TO THE CHAMBER!

Twice Told Tales
104 S. Main
McPherson, Ks 67460
Contact: Jessica Niemeyer
Facebook: Twice Told Tales

Twice Told Tales is a used bookstore that sells literature at an affordable price. They seek to be community centered by providing an atmosphere where people can gather to discuss books. They will also have events celebrating literacy and education as well and plan to donate books to local schools and organizations.

Jessica Niemeyer has over five years of book retail store experience from a variety of perspectives. Jessica has worked for both privately owned "mom & pop" bookstores as well as corporate chain stores including Barnes & Noble and Half-Price Books. Her experience encompasses new and used book sales. Twice Told Tales is a used bookstore that sells literature at an affordable price.

Jessica is very excited to be a member of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce and McPherson Main Street and is working hard to get Twice Told Tales open in September. Watch for the opening date!

Simply Good Overstocks
301 S. Main
McPherson, Ks 67460
Phone: 512-763-9190
Contacts: Marlene and Stephen Gray
Facebook, Amazon & Ebay

What started in 2009 for Stephen & Marlene Gray in their garage, quickly turned into a thriving business with 4 warehouses and 12 employees. But the hectic traffic and big city pace of Phoenix, Arizona could be rather stressful, so the former McPherson High School graduate decided to return to his hometown. Stephen & Marlene have made McPherson their new home along with their daughter, son-in-law and two granddaughters. A great crew to run Simply Good Overstocks located at 301 S. Main (previous the McPherson Sentinel).

The retail store has something for everyone. Groceries occupy at least half of the retail space while the other shelves are full of children's toys, tools and a variety of odds and ends. The items are constantly changing so you will want to shop in often. Although they had not initially intended on having many grocery items, after selling out the first week, they realized they need. The quality products at Simply Good Overstocks are offered at greatly reduced prices to serve the families of McPherson by helping them save money.

Good products, good prices, good people – check out Simply Goods Overstocks.

Great Plains Family Medicine LLC
400 W. First
McPherson, Ks 67460
Contact: Dr. Andrea Herrera
Phone: 785-445-8418
www.greatplainsfamilymedicine.com

If you are tired of ever increasing health care and insurance costs Great Plains Family Medicine (GPFM) is here to help. Starting September 1, GPFM will open their doors to provide quality health care at affordable prices. Their goal is to strengthen relationships between people and their medical providers without the complication of third parties. To do this, GPFM will not accept or bill insurance. Instead, payment will be an affordable monthly fee that ranges from \$10-100, depending on age. This fee will cover all office visits, any procedures or testing that can be done in the office, and more accessibility to medical providers. Electronic methods of communication like text, email, Skype and FaceTime are also options to stay in touch with your provider. GPFM will also offer wholesale medications, lab work and radiology services. Small businesses can certainly benefit from this model as well by significantly reducing health care costs for their employees. Check out our website at greatplainsfamilymedicine.com for more information and online enrollment.

DESTINATION BOOTCAMP

The McPherson E-Community Partnership Fund, which is administered by the McPherson Chamber of Commerce has awarded 12 McPherson and Lindsborg business owners to attend the nationally recognized marketing guru, Jon Schaller's Destination BootCamp on October 27-29 in Longmont, Col-

orado. BootCamp is an intensive 2 ½ day program on how to make businesses "Consumer Destinations." Destination BootCamp's goal is to assist local businesses in a challenging economy, by giving them skills, tips and tactics to increase sales and customer traffic into McPherson and Lindsborg.

Scholarships are granted to the following businesses: Connected Fair Trade Store, The White Peacock Coffee, The Old Grind Coffee, Chestnut Studios Ceramics, Small World Gallery, Good Merchant and Trollslanda Toy Store along with Holly Lofton Lindsborg CVB all in Lindsborg. The Village

Geek, ReachSolutions/IMAGE Professionals Cleaning, Hopp's Sound & Electric, Peoples Bank & Trust from McPherson along with Jennifer Burch, McPherson Chamber of Commerce and Anne Engel, McPherson Main Street.

From the McPherson Chamber of Commerce



Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

There are many layers to the Chamber organization. The most visible layer is the 306 N. Main front door to our office where the day to day functions of the Chamber take place. The next layer consists of the events, programs and activities that the Chamber hosts, plans and executes that are provided to the community and members. Another layer goes deeper, not visible, but very important is the internal operations of the Chamber. During this time of year we are nearing the end of our fiscal year (August 31). That entails new board member orientation, budget, researching software for an upgrade to enhance resource features for the community and added membership benefits, reviewing the Chambers' goals and proposing 2015-2016 initiatives.

The very core of the layers is ideas that have been proposed for operations, programs & events that are in the research and discussion phase. While this is added to what we already do on a day to day basis, I feel that is it vital to keep the Chamber organization always evolving, just as anyone else would do in their own business. I hope to be able to share real soon about some of those ideas.

Special thanks

- The Leadership Alumni were invited to Williams Energy earlier this month to learn more about their company and the production process. Thank you to Randy Heinrichs and Scott Barkley.

- Rural Appreciation took place with organizing the grilling and serving around 550 grilled hamburgers in addition to about 40 volunteers. It was a hot one!

Please join us

- Now we are into When Pigs Fly Food Fest. The event is no longer a KCBS event, sadly,

there is a lot of costs involved with hosting a sanctioned event and the end goal is to have money to fund AFA scholarships for McPherson County students. Keeping that goal in mind, the committee is providing the necessary food vending for the event being held by the McPherson Airport (see the article in this newsletter for the schedule).

- Also part of the When Pigs Fly Food Fest the Ag Committee is holding an "Anything Goes" Peoples Choice Food Contest. We hope this is a success as well as fun for the community.

DQ GRILL & CHILL WINNERS

Congratulations to Tod Emerson with Cornerstone Premier Real Estate, LLC located at 119 W. First Street is the of a winner of a DQ Cake.

Thank you to Roger and Karen Horn, owners of DQ Grill and Chill, 1435 N. Main, for providing the monthly DQ treat product for a special McPherson Chamber of Commerce member.

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2015 - 2016 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

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 Tracy Sterling – Hall's Culligan Water • Janet Lynch – CertainTeed Corporation • Zac Hoppes – Farmers State Bank
 Tom Saffel – Prairie Land Works • Katie Sawyer – McPherson College
 Staff: Jennifer Burch – Executive Director • Debbie Hawkinson – Administrative Assistant • Alesia Stout – Program Assistant

chamber events

AUGUST

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|---|---|
| <p>19 7:00 a.m.
When Pigs Fly
Committee @ Perkins
4:00 p.m. Women's Event
@ Chamber</p> <p>20 9:30 a.m. Ribbon Cutting
& Chamber Coffee
for Nex Tech,
121 W. Marlin, Ste 100</p> <p>22 6:30 a.m. When Pigs Fly
Food Fest & Missions
at the McPherson Airport
@ McPherson Airport</p> <p>27 9:30 a.m. Ribbon Cutting
& Chamber Coffee
for Marigolds Market
& Bar, 204 N. Main</p> <p>11:30 a.m.
Chamber Board
@ Chamber</p> | <p>10 12:00 Community
Development @
Chamber</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Chamber
Coffee hosted by
the United Way
of McPherson County
@ the McPherson
Museum</p> <p>17 9:30 a.m. Chamber
Coffee hosted by
St. Joseph Catholic
School, 520 E.
Northview Ave.</p> <p>Men's Chamber Trip
departs for New Orleans</p> <p>18 10:00 a.m. Ribbon
Cutting for Twice
Told Tales, 104 S. Main</p> <p>21 9:00 a.m.
KSBDC representatives
by appointment</p> <p>24 9:30 a.m. Chamber
Coffee hosted
by McPherson Housing
Coalition @ TBD</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Chamber
Board @ Chamber</p> |
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SEPTEMBER

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| <p>3 9:30 a.m.
Chamber Coffee</p> <p>7 Labor Day – office closed</p> <p>8 7:00 a.m. Agriculture
Committee @ Perkins</p> |
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From the United Way of McPherson County



Anne Kirchner
Director

August is an exciting time for United Way of McPherson County. We just completed our annual triathlon fundraiser and are now busy preparing for Campaign 2015. This year's theme "Pass It Forward" encourages community members to contribute to McPherson County both financially and through random acts of kindness. Helping others is what drives the United Way mission – something we've been doing for 60 years!

On August 25, business representatives will be recognized for facilitating workplace campaigns to benefit United Way. The lunch-and-learn event will also provide insight about how to motivate fellow employees to participate in Campaign 2015. Each year workplace campaigns raise more than 40 percent of the annual campaign goal, an act of kindness for

which United Way is grateful. Employees make contributions through payroll deduction, and often companies enhance the process by matching employee dollars.

The general public will be introduced to "Pass It Forward" Campaign 2015 on September 10. Festivities begin at 9:30 a.m. with United Way hosting the McPherson Chamber Coffee at the McPherson Museum. An information fair featuring United Way partner agencies will follow from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There's no better way to see firsthand where United Way dollars are invested. Attendees will also view the campaign video and can make their pledges in person. This "campaign blitz" will give our efforts a significant boost as we aspire to raise \$225,000 by December 31.

All are invited to "Pass It Forward." Whether one dollar, ten dollars, one hundred dollars or more, the act of kindness in sharing financial resources will keep the LIVE UNITED movement flowing. Help United Way celebrate 60 years by giving 6 percent more. If every current donor increases their gift by 6 percent, we will reach our goal. And if we engage new donors along the way, we will surpass our goal – even better!

National Manufacturing Day

Manufacturing Day is an opportunity for manufacturers and industries to highlight their work and their workers and to energize a future pipeline of skilled workers. Last year was a first for McPherson with Viega opening their doors for tours and making their announcement of a 80,000 square foot plant expansion to manufacture their metal fittings. Viega had 104 area college students, 54 area high school students and 89 business representatives tour their facility.

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce has requested a proclamation to designate the month of October as manufacturing month in McPherson County, although the official national recognized day is Friday, October 2, 2015. The McPherson Chamber of Commerce and McPherson Industrial Development Company are encouraging county industries and man-

ufacturers to open their doors and invite young people to experience and to showcase the potential of modern manufacturing and foster interest in manufacturing careers.

Students, teachers, parents and job seekers can see for themselves that manufacturing provides clean, safe, high-tech environments in which to pursue challenging, creative, well-paid careers. By providing this opportunity, we anticipate more young people will want to follow a manufacturing career path.

If you are interested in hosting an open house or hosting students in your place of business during the month of October, please contact Jennifer Burch, McPherson Chamber of Commerce, 241-3303. She will be glad to be of assistance to you in making the arrangements.

This weekend!

When Pigs Fly Food Fest & Missions at the Airport

Proceeds from the When Pigs Fly Food Fest go to fund a Agriculture Future of America scholarship for a McPherson County student that is going into a field of study related to agriculture. The McPherson Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee has funded nearly \$60,000 in scholarships to 21 students. In addition to providing tuition for Leadership Conferences.

Saturday, August 22

• 6:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Fuel your tank with something yummy to start the day with the ever so famous Kiwanis Club pancakes & sausage (\$)
 Pilots will be flying in from all over the state of Kansas – so some of the most unique aircraft will be on display.
 • 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Airplane and helicopter rides (\$) Call the McPherson Airport at 620-241-0684 to get signed up for your air experience. Thrilling demonstrations of special flying techniques. Information booths for JAARS (Jungle Aviation And Radio Services)

Meet and visit with jungle pilots and translators

• 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. When Pigs Fly Food Fest "Anything Goes People's Choice Food Contest" (\$) samples – Variety is the name of the game!



Joni Regnier
CVB Director

On July 11, I went to my first movie at the Band Shell. I had never gone before and thought it would be too hot, but I was pleasantly surprised! By 9:15 it had cooled down enough that I was sitting comfortable in my lawn chair enjoying the movie. Right before the movie ended it was so chilly that I could've used a blanket. Who would of thought that in the middle of July you would need a blanket? So if you're using the same excuse that I've used in the past that it's too hot to sit outside and watch a movie, think again.

Movies at the Band Shell are so much fun and they are FREE! You can bring your blanket, pillow, popcorn, candy and lie on the grass and enjoy

• 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. When Pigs Fly Food Fest Vendors (\$) serving up tasty goods!
 • 3:00 p.m. When Pigs Fly Food Fest "Anything Goes" Winner Announced.

Sunday, August 23

• 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. Airplane and helicopter rides (\$) Call the McPherson Airport at 620-241-0684 to get signed up for your air experience.

Thrilling demonstrations of special flying techniques. Information booths for JAARS (Jungle Aviation And Radio Services)
 Meet and visit with jungle pilots and translators

Thank you to the following sponsors for the When Pigs Fly Food Fest

Wild Hogs Club: CHS, The Trust Co., Home State Bank & Trust, Peoples Bank & Trust

Pork Loin Club: Rock'n E Farms, Zeitlow Distributing, Hassman Termitte & Pest Control, S & S Farms Custom Beef, McPherson County Farm Bureau, Midway Motors, Farmers State Bank

Pork Chop Club: McPherson Realty Exchange, Nex Tech, First Bank Kansas, Ken D. Cotton, DDS, Hedlund Electric, McPherson County Feeders

and a great movie with your family & friends. As one father put it "It's like going to the drive-in without your car." So next summer call all your friends and bring your family and meet me at the park for a FREE movie! We show family movies that are appropriate for all ages. It's very rare this day that you can take your family out for a fun filled evening and not even have to spend a dime.

The McPherson CVB has now completed their summer movies in the park at the Band Shell Series. We showed 6 movies over the summer starting with "Big Hero 6" on May 9, and ending with "How to Train Your Dragon 2" on August 15. A big thank you to all of our local sponsors for making movies in the park a huge success!

Hope to see everyone next year at the Band Shell for a movie in the park. In the meantime come join us for a night of fun at Basketball Traditions on Saturday, Sept. 13 at 6:00 p.m. at McPherson High School.

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