

The Chamber

306 N. Main, McPherson, Kansas 67460

April 2011

2010-2011 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

President – Chad Alexander, Peoples Bank & Trust ~ President Elect – Greg McCullough, Farmers Alliance Mutual Insurance Co.
Past President – Jason Hoover, Midway Motors Super Center ~ Treasurer – Jodi Baerg, Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chtd

Directors: Jeff Smith, S & S Farms ~ Heather Meredith ~ Hospira ~ Charlotte Calhoun ~ Four Season Realtors
Jim Leach – retired ~ Trish Goad – Memorial Hospital ~ Ron Willems – Sunflower Bank ~ Anna Ruxlow – McPherson College ~ Mike King – King Enterprise Group

Mission: to work as an organization of individuals, businesses and professionals to enhance the economic, civic and cultural interests of the McPherson area.

Women's Chamber Trip Changes Destination

Savannah, Georgia is the new destination scheduled for October 22nd to October 26th. Travelers will depart mid-day from Wichita and arrive in Savannah late afternoon. Accommodations are at the Holiday Inn Express Historic District, a brand new hotel with a contemporary Southern style located right on Bay Street and surrounded by dozens of boutiques, restaurants, River Street and Savannah's famed squares. The group will take a private sightseeing city tour of Savannah as well as a day trip via private motor coach to lovely seacoast town of Beaufort, South Carolina, with a Gullah Geechee tour, and experience the many shops and historic sites. Also travelers will have free time to explore and experience all the southern charm that Savannah has to offer. The Women's Trip committee is working on securing a "woman in business" breakfast speaker – always a special treat to learn about successful women in other parts of the country when they travel.

From the Director



Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

Change is good. Change is needed. Change is inevitable. Change is a lot of work! In order to best utilize staff time, resources and be more cost conscious, change had to take place in the way our monthly newsletter was being distributed. I am so thankful for the McPherson Sentinel who has provided the Chamber a venue to share with the community about what the Chamber does, in addition to providing newsletters to send to our members for a number of years. Change was needed to be more effective and efficient without draining resources. The Sentinel will continue to provide space in the newspaper to keep the general public informed about the Chamber. This format then will be emailed to our

members as a newsletter the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Please bear with us in working out all the kinks that might happen, we want to provide a communication piece that will be read and used.

Some changes include the inserts – which will become attachments instead, this will reduce members expenses significantly without having to provide us with the 400 plus copies, just get us one piece to scan and we will attach it for a nominal fee.

I want to take this time to congratulate and thank Don Pennington of Security National Mortgage Company, 822 N. Main for being the #1 Ambassador this past month during Membership Magic. Coming in at #2 was Tiffani Floyd of McPherson Business Solutions, 421 N. Maple and Gold Canyon Candles, Tying for 3rd place was Zach Hoppes of Farmers State Bank and Kim Unruh, McPherson Sentinel. Thank you all for your time and all that you do!

Trip package includes: round-trip airfare from Wichita; airport transfers; 4-night hotel accommodations & taxes at the Holiday Inn Express Historic District (rooms with 2 queen beds); Welcome Dinner; Breakfast each morning at hotel; sightseeing tour of Savannah; excursion to Beaufort, SC including Gullah Geechee tour; escort service provided by McPherson Travel Center.

Seats will be going fast so a \$400 deposit (nonrefundable) is required to reserve your space by April 30th. Final payment (nonrefundable) due September 1, 2011. (When making your deposit, please bring your driver's license).

\$1170 per person for Double Occupancy • \$1040 per person for Triple Occupancy
\$970 per person for Quad Occupancy
(+\$50.00 for non-Chamber members)
(Trip cost is based on a minimum of 20 passengers)

*Travel insurance is available at an additional cost and must be paid at time of deposit – further details can be provided by McPherson Travel Center.

Mid Session Update From Legislators

The BAM! Committee will be hosting a mid session update from our area legislators on Saturday, April 2 at 9:00 – The Well. The event is sponsored by AT & T.

City Candidate Lunch

The BAM! Committee will host a City Candidate Lunch on Thursday, March 31 at The Well located at 101 N. Main starting at 11:45 a.m. Incumbent Commissioner of Streets & Utilities Mike Alkire is being challenged for his seat by Kerry Gillis in the General

Election on April 3.

The cost of the lunch meeting is \$10.00 and reservations must be made to the Chamber office by Tuesday, March 29 by calling 241-3303.

@WORK

Doing what most people think just happens!

chamber events

April 2011

- Friday, April 1**
Ribbon Cutting & Business After Hours @ Complete Automotive & Auto King, 1306 Highway 81 ByPass 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 2**
Meet & Greet Your Legislator - Mid Session Update @ The Well, 101 N. Main 9:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 5**
Ambassadors @ The Chamber 12:00 Noon
- Wednesday, April 6**
When Pigs Fly @ Perkins 7:00 a.m.
- Thursday, April 7**
Chamber Coffee @ Patriot Pawn and Firearms Co., 2000 E. Kansas 9:30 a.m.
- GoMcPherson @ USD #418**
12:00 Noon
- Tartan Turkey Golf Tournament @ Chamber**
12:00 Noon
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Business After Hours at TCK Trust & Financial Advisors, 1603 N. Main**
4:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 11**
Community Development @ Tres Amigos, 12:00 Noon
- Tuesday, April 12**
Ag Committee @ Perkins 7:00 a.m.
- 2011 Leadership McPherson @ Chamber**
8:30 a.m.
- Community Development @ Chamber**
12:00 Noon
- Thursday, April 14**
Chamber Coffee for CASA @ 122 E. Marlin, Suite 202 9:30 a.m.
- Family Fair at McPherson Community Building, 122 E. Marlin**
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 20**
Chamber Academy "Taking the Drag Out of Power Point Presentations" @ McPherson Campus - HCC 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, April 21**
Chamber Coffee at Hopps Sound & Electric, 214 E. Euclid 9:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 26**
2011 Leadership McPherson Class 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday, April 28**
Chamber Coffee @ Sunflower Bank, 120 W. Kansas 9:30 a.m.
- Lakeside Plaza Board @ Chamber**
10:30 a.m.
- Chamber Board @ Chamber**
11:30 a.m.

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TIM CHEATHAM CONSTRUCTION LLC
1108 Forest Court
McPherson, Ks 67460
Contact: Tim Cheatham
Phone: 620.245.5469
Web: www.cheatham.construction.com

Lifelong McPherson residents Tim and Jenny Cheatham started TIC Construction in 1999. In 2007 the business name changed to Tim Cheatham Construction LLC. They specialize in general construction, commercial roof coating and steel building construction. We can also handle all your residential needs including roofing, siding, concrete, painting, remodeling and new construction.

PET EXPRESS
200 N. Main
McPherson, Ks 67460
Contact: Tami Wilson
Phone: 620.504.6555

Tami Wilson owner of Pet Express has 25 years experience in animal grooming. She has opened her second store in McPherson and has had another store in Hutchinson for 11 years. Tami was born and raised in McPherson, her parents are Karyl and Jan Decker and grandparents are Vivian Embers and the late Duane Embers.

HORIZON REAL ESTATE SERVICES (Carol Hamilton)
1345 N. Main, Suites 4 & 5
P.O. Box 354
McPherson, Ks 67460
Contact: Carol Hamilton
Phone: 620.241.8300
Fax: 620.504.6224
Cell: 620.504.2252

My husband and I moved to McPherson from Texas two years ago and have not regretted our choice. I wanted to become part of the McPherson community in the most positive way, for me real estate is that positive way. I have met some wonderful people through my real estate career and look forward to meeting even more that make up this great town. It is exciting to think I

AUTOKING
1306 Highway 81 Bypass
McPherson, KS 67460
Contact: Dustin Younger
Phone: 620.480.1572
Web: www.autokingaudio.com

Join us in our ribbon cutting ceremony & Chamber Coffee on Thursday, March 24 at 9:30 a.m.

Butterfield Construction established in 1971 has 6 full time employees. Services provided by Butterfield Construction: trenching, backfill, directional boring. Replace & install utilities, install & service lawn sprinkler systems. Local projects include: Memorial Hospital – directional boring to move utilities, The Cedars – directional boring from offices to new units to install fiber optics beneath the ponds.

Invest in the continual training and development of you and your employees.

Invest in the continual training and development of you and your employees.

BPU Moves Into New Home

The Board of Public Utilities will be in their new administrative office building located at 401 West Kansas Avenue and open for business beginning Monday,

March 21. Their new mailing address will be P.O. Box 768, McPherson, Kansas 67460
Congratulations on your new beautiful home!

Free Community Event

Make A Difference Family Fair

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce BASIC (Building Assets for Success In our Community) with the McPherson County Community Foundation, KU Medical Center and the South Central Medical Education Network are proud to bring an evening of entertainment, fun activities & door prizes for the whole family!

families will be available targeting ages birth to 14. Lots of practical, useful ideas to help kids be more confident and successful! Free healthy snacks for everyone who attends! Door prizes will be given throughout the evening.

It is Come and Go from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the McPherson Community Building, 122 E. Marlin.

2011 OMEGA Nominations

(Outstanding McPherson Eighth Grade Award)

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce Education committee is pleased to announce that nominations are being accepted for the 2011 OMEGA. Your help is needed to see that a deserving 8th grade student from McPherson county will be recognized for their leadership qualities, courage, compassion and service to their community. Nomination forms are available at the McPherson Chamber of Commerce or at www.mcphersonchamber.org. Letters and forms have been sent to McPherson County schools as well. Students nominated will be notified and winners will be recognized with the prestigious OMEGA at the Thursday, May 12 evening May Fete festivities. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Chamber at 620.241.3303. Deadline for nominations to the Chamber, 306 N. Main by April 8th.

This Month's DQ Winner

Congratulations to Mid Kansas Eyecare of McPherson, located at 915 N. Main. They are winners of a cool DQ cake from Roger and Karen Horn of a DQ McPherson located at 1435 N. Main.

cake. A winner is drawn on the 15th of each month by the Chamber staff and contacted by Dairy Queen.

Thank you Roger & Karen Horn for this special treat you provide members of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce.

From The United Way

Brenda Sales
Director

At our March meeting, the United Way of McPherson County Board of Directors approved the funding recommendations of the Allocations Committees. Funding for these programs comes from our 2010 Campaign, which totaled \$206,459. Programs provided by the following agencies will receive funding this year:

Providing Basic Needs:
American Red Cross; Boy Scout Pack #117; Health Ministries Clinic; Meals on Wheels; and Salvation Army

Rebuilding Lives:
American Red Cross; CASA: A Voice for Children; Heart to Heart Child Advocacy Center; and Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Center

Preparing for Life:
Big Brothers Big Sisters; Boy Scout Pack #117; Boy Scout Pack #130; Boy Scout Troop #117; The Children's Center; Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland, Inc.; McPherson Family Life Center; McPherson Family YMCA; and STEP of McPherson County

Building Self-Reliance:
McPherson County Council on Aging; McPherson Family Life Center; McPherson Family YMCA; Special Olympics; STEP of McPherson County; and United Cerebral Palsy

By funding the programs these agencies provide, together we can create opportunities for everyone in our community. Together we are creating real, lasting change by focusing on the building blocks of a better life. That's what it means to LIVE UNITED.

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From Convention & Visitors Bureau My 3C Initiative



Anne Hassler
Director
Convention & Visitors Bureau

I was thrilled to hear that the USD 418 received a waiver from the federal government from state testing and is free to pursue its C3 initiative. Of the three Cs – college, career and citizenship – I'm most excited about citizenship. What an essential lesson it is to teach youth the importance of being an involved citizen. I think it

it's also a great opportunity for local groups and organizations to sell concessions and make some money.

This brings up another C word – cooperation. The school district was a little hesitant at first but thanks to some tactful negotiations by Mayor Tom Brown and Dr. Randy Watson, we're now able to host this big group in our nicest school facility – the Roundhouse. The district will receive a little revenue from facility rental but it's also a great opportunity for programs that are facing budget cuts to prop up their coffers by selling concessions.

I would have liked to let all community organizations sell concessions at the high school but in the spirit of cooperation, I had to (oh look, another C word) compromise. We will host a free concert at the band shell in Lakeside Park that evening and give free passes to the water park all day courtesy of the CVB. Community organizations will be able to sell concessions at the park.

We have also planned a shuttle to take BAK riders downtown to restaurants and the Opera House and to businesses by the interstate so everyone can benefit. Community, cooperation and compromise, the 3 Cs of promoting McPherson. It's a win-win-win.

I like -- community. Much of what I do is try to attract people to come visit our community, spend the night, spend some money, increase the bed tax and sales tax revenue. Sometimes these opportunities also represent a chance for the community at large to benefit in other ways.

Take for example when Biking Across Kansas comes to McPherson this year on June 7. There will be 850 cyclists plus another 250 support staff and family descending on our town in one day. Most spend between \$25-\$30 on food and entertainment a day. Sure it's a nice boost to the local economy but

April Conventions, Reunions & Tours:

1-4 International Chess Team Championship - 40 Rooms
8-9 Word Fest 2011 - 40 Rooms
27-28 Kansas Association of County Planning & Zoning - 30 Rooms
29-1 Kansas Twins Association - 40 Rooms

From Our Family... To Yours

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