

April 2013

The Chamber @WORK

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Welcome to the Chamber!

Stupka Chiropractic & Wellness Center

114 West Euclid
McPherson, KS 67460
Contact: Brandon Stupka
Phone: 620-504-6677

After several operose months of the tear-out and build-up process, Brandon Stupka, the one who has been working on the remodel project at 114 West Euclid, has finally opened his doors for business as Stupka Chiropractic & Wellness Center. Born and raised in Colby, KS, Brandon is a very family-oriented person who grew up working along side his parents, Terry & Teresa Stupka, in their construction business where he learned a good trade and how hard work and determination pay off. He left Colby in pursuit of an education where he attended Kansas State University, earning his bachelor's degree in business management. Always having a niche for a healthy lifestyle and enjoying making people feel full of life, Brandon decided his journey did not end at Kansas State. He advanced his education at Cleveland Chiropractic College in Kansas City, where he graduated with his Doctor of Chiropractic degree in April 2012. He spent the following summer deciding the perfect location to open his new practice in McPherson. Strong family ties were a big influence on his location choice as his aunt and uncle, Julie and Dale Wenthe, offered tremendous support in his journey to building this practice. Contrary to what he may have said at times, Brandon really has enjoyed restoring luster to this old building in McPherson and renovating a part of its history. He's been fortunate to acquire the countless hours of help from family, friends and many new friends of McPherson. Just as he's rebuilt this building, he's looking forward to building relationships and helping out the community of McPherson.

Catasym
1509 N. Grimes
McPherson, KS 67460
Contact: Marc Robertson
Phone: 316/323-8987
Web: www.mycatasym.com/
robertson

According to Dr. Marc Robertson, a McPherson chiropractor for a little over four years, a great friend presented him with a very unique business opportunity. His friend was searching for people to help launch a new internet technology company that has taken the best of other successful internet companies like Facebook, eBay, Craigslist, Angie's List and Monster.com by putting them all under one "roof and marrying them to a home-based business model". With the potential for this new company to go viral and an international patent pending, Robertson said he was without a doubt on board.

Introducing Catasym, a revolutionary internet technology company that provides platforms for selling goods and services online. The company has taken advantage of today's highly affordable and nearly unlimited server space to create a new kind of platform. Unlike other sites, Catasym's customers can post limited listings for free, or they can opt to pay a small monthly fee to enjoy the exclusive ability of listing multiple products and running unlimited ads for an indefinite number of days. Whether customers choose the free option or the paid service, they keep all of their sale profits. Plus, since Catasym equips its customers with a hub for hosting all of their sale items in one place, they are able to increase their potential for cross promotion and to leverage their offerings when they refer buyers back to their Catasym hub through ads placed on outside sites. A second exclusive benefit of Catasym.net is its hands-on customer service. Customers who need assistance listing items or services can choose to have a local mentor help them create and market their site. Catasym facilitates a culture of customer service that you won't find on similar sites. Thirdly, Catasym is search engine optimized to harness the power of the most popular search engines like Google, Bing and Yahoo. That means your listings get top rankings when someone searches for a product that you're selling or a service you are promoting. Essentially, Catasym offers customers unique financial and marketing benefits not found on other platforms. When folks use Catasym, they enjoy an easy-to-use and affordable platform for promoting goods and services.

22nd Annual Tartan Turkey Golf Tournament

You are invited to join in the day of fun and networking at the Tartan Turkey Golf Tournament, scheduled for Saturday, June 8 at Turkey Creek Golf Course. Sponsorship and volunteer opportunities are available.

Hole & Prize ACE Sponsor \$250.00

- Company sign at appointed hole
- Publication recognition: Chamber Weekly E-News, Monthly Chamber @ Work newsletter, website & tournament program
- Company Gift tag on prize
- Recognition at Awards Ceremony
- Company logo on tournament golfer cup
- Expo space near clubhouse or at your appointed hole to market your business, demonstrate your products and/or services, get leads, give away samples or cheer on your favorite golfer

Hole Sponsor EAGLE \$150

- Company sign at appointed hole
- Publication recognition: Chamber Weekly E-News, Monthly Chamber @ Work newsletter, website & tournament program
- Recognition at Awards Ceremony
- Company name on tournament golfer cup
- Expo space near clubhouse or at your appointed hole to market your business, demonstrate your products and/or services, get leads, provide samples or cheer on your favorite golfer

In-Kind or Cash Donation – BIRDIE Sponsor

- Chamber Weekly E-News, Monthly Chamber @ Work, website & tournament program recognition
 - Recognition at Awards Ceremony
 - Expo space near the club house
- Suggestions:
*Be A Ball Sponsor – Each player receives a sleeve of golf balls, so we will need about 54 dozen. Any amount you can donate would

be great!

*Get creative with your marketing and include logo items or discounts for each golfer. This gives you the potential of 144 business connections.

*Prizes needed in increments of 4 (used for flight prizes – 4 players per team) such as golfing items, video rentals, oil changes, towels, movie passes, dinners, gift certificates/cards, etc.

Be a VOLUNTEER!

Let us know if you would like to help out on Saturday morning. Lunch included and the opportunity to network with everyone on the course.

Join these Sponsors Already Supporting Continental Breakfast (Homemade Ginnam Rolls)– Scott's Hometown Foods Lunch – Smokeak Kansas with all the trimmings – Knackies Meats & Sweets

Hole In One Prizes: Sponsored by Midway Motors (2013 Ford F-150, 2013 Buick Encore, 2013 Jeep Wrangler), 3 nights and 2 rounds – Stay and Play vacation to TPC Las Vegas

ACE Sponsors: Home State Bank & Trust, Sunflower Bank, Wichita Mid-Continent Airport, Farmers Alliance Mutual Insurance

EAGLE Sponsors: Computer Solutions, Inc., Hutton Construction dba King Enterprise Group, First Bank Kansas, McPherson Pizza Hut/Wing Street Restaurants, Rinse & Roll Car Wash, Kansas Secured Title, Hassman Termite & Pest Control, Inc.

BIRDIE Sponsors: Jessica Griffith Certified Massage Therapist, McPherson Family Life Center, Farmers Alliance Mutual Insurance, Edward Jones – Brad Seibel, Edward Jones – Gary Hess, First Bank Kansas, Gilmore Solutions, Inc., Krehbiels Speciality Meats, Ameriprise Financial, S&S Farms

From the McPherson Chamber of Commerce

Sometimes I think we are too close to something to really appreciate it. I am speaking of our community. If you take the opportunity to drive around town, read our newspaper, listen to our radio, you will notice a lot is going on. How many communities do you know are building a new

community? How many communities do you know supported a bond issue to make additions and expansions to their schools in order to provide opportunities for students and to maintain a quality and safe facility to learn in? How many communities are investing in the recreation of youth and adults with upgrades to a sports complex? Take a look at the work that is being done by residents in raising funds for a dog park, the walking trail? Our community is really trying to be the best that it can be. It takes innovation, creativity, countless hours, lots of passion and a desire to make it happen. I encourage you to stop, look and appreciate. Be a McPherson cheerleader!



Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

2013 OMEGA Honorees are an Inspiration

You are invited to attend the award presentation of the Outstanding McPherson Area Eighth Grade Award (OMEGA) winners, during the Wednesday, May 8th May Fete activities at Lakeside Park. The OMEGA award was created by the McPherson Chamber of Commerce to recognize McPherson County eighth grade students for their positive attitudes and actions. The students we are honoring were nominated for their courage, compassion, leadership and service to our community. Although these students may accomplish good grades or excel at sports, they shine because of their compassion for others, going

above and beyond with volunteer efforts, being a leader for peers, for their positive attitude through life's difficulties and for making a difference! Please join us as we recognize these inspirational OMEGA award winners for 2013: Madilyn Allen of Elyria; Abigail Bernhardt and Tobias Belknap from Inman; Allison Jasso from Moundridge and the McPherson honorees are Ashley Gant, Morgan Howard and Thomas Smith.

Chamber Academy Advanced Excel Classes

April 26 – Automating Worksheet Tasks
May 3 – Using Goals Seek and What if Analysis

May 10 – All Schools Day – no classes
May 17 – Analyzing Data with Pivot Tables and Pivot Charts

To register call 241-3303 or email chamber@mcphersonks.org to register. All classes are held at Hutchinson Community College – McPherson Center, 2210 E. Kansas Avenue.

Agriculture Future of America Scholarships Awarded

Dale Ladd, McPherson Chamber of Commerce AFA Scholarship selection committee chair, announced that Ethan Fowler and Blake Brown, both McPherson High School Seniors, winners of the 2013 Tom Hunter

Agriculture Future of America Scholarship. Both will be attending Kansas State University majoring in agriculture. The \$3,200 scholarships and Leadership Conference trips are provided by AFA local donors, proceeds from the annual When Pigs Fly BBQ Contest & Fly In, and the endowment at the McPherson County Community Foundation.

Since 2000, the When Pigs Fly BBQ Contest & Fly In has raised over \$46,000, providing scholarships for 17 McPherson County students, in addition to Leadership Conference tuitions. The AFA scholarship is an initiative of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee.

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2012 - 2013 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

President - Dell Reese • President Elect - Dr. Brandon Trost

Treasurer - Jaymie Rothrock • Past President - Greg McCullough

Directors: Chad Clark, Scott Johnson, Gena Strathman, Richard Ragan, Anna Ruxlow, Troy Short, Corey Hoover, Ted Odle

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

chamber events April 2013/May 2013

- April**
- 18 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee @ Chamber Office, hosted by CASA
 - 19 11:00 a.m. Chamber Academy @ HCC-McPherson
 - 23 12:00 Tartan Turkey Golf meeting @ Chamber
 - 24 8:30 a.m. Kansas Global Presentation @ Chamber
 - 25 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee @ McPherson Family Life Center
 - 26 11:00 a.m. Chamber Academy @ HCC-McPherson
 - 11:30 a.m. Chamber board meeting @ Chamber
- May**
- 1 7:00 a.m. When Pigs Fly @ Perkins
 - 12:00 Leadership Board of Trustees @ Chamber
 - 2 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by McPherson County Community Foundation
 - 12:00 GCMcPherson Board @ BPU
 - 3 11:00 a.m. Chamber Academy @ HCC-McPherson
 - 7 12:00 Ambassadors @ Chamber
 - 9 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by McPherson County All Schools Day @ Chamber
 - 10 100th McPherson County All Schools Day
 - 14 7:00 a.m. Ag Committee @ Perkins
 - 12:00 Community Development @ Chamber
 - 16 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by Tartan Turkey Golf Committee @ Turkey Creek Golf Course
 - 17 11:00 a.m. Chamber Academy @ HCC-McPherson
 - Early registration deadline Tartan Turkey
 - 21 11:30 a.m. Leadership Alumni Lunch & Learn @ Krehbiel's Specialty Meats
 - 22 12:00 Tartan Turkey Golf Meeting @ Chamber
 - 23 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by Catatsym @ Chamber

Free & Confidential One-on-One Business Counseling Available

The Kansas Small Business Development Center will have an Outreach Center Consultant at the McPherson Chamber of Commerce office located at 306 N. Main from 9:00 to 4:00 on the following days:
Monday's
 May 13, June 10, July 15, August 12, September 16, October 21, November 18 and December 9.

The KSBCD offers individualized, confidential, and comprehensive business consulting at no charge to its clients. Any existing small business or individual interested in needing counseling in areas of: marketing and sales, accounting, financial analysis and cost control, personnel, inventory control, business start-up or acquisition, business liquidation or sale, strategic planning, and many other areas. One hour long appointments are available beginning at 9:00, 10:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00 and can be made by calling the McPherson Chamber of Commerce at 620/241-3303.

DQ Grill & Chill Winners

Every month DQ Grill & Chill, 1435 N. Main provides 1 lucky chamber member a FREE Cake. This month's lucky winner is Graber's Ace Hardware. Enjoy your special treat! Thank you to Karen & Roger Horn for providing this opportunity for our Chamber members.

2013-2014 Board Nomination Notification (sent via email 4/2/13)

To Members of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce.

In accordance to the Chamber Bylaws, a Nominating Committee consisting of (Ted Odle, Jaymie Rothrock, Chad Clark, Chet Lang, Jeff Smith and Chris Wiens) was organized to nominate (4) candidates for the 2013-2014 board. The committee selected four candidates to replace Directors whose three-year terms are expiring August 31. Candidates for full three year terms must meet each of the following criteria:

- 1) must be a Chamber member in good standing; and
- 2) must have agreed in advance to accept Board responsibilities.

Members may nominate persons otherwise qualified for Board membership by petition. Requirements for petition to be valid.

- 1) bear genuine signatures of Members

representing at least ten percent of Chamber membership; and

- 2) be presented to the Executive Director by 5:00 p.m. at 306 N. Main on the 10th day after written notice of the slate of candidates is presented.

Absent any valid petition, the Board will declare the four (4) nominated candidates elected at the May meeting.

The suggested nominees will be replacing board members whose terms will be completed August 31: Greg McCullough, Farmers Alliance Mutual Insurance Co.; Richard Ragan, Brown's Shoe Fit; Anna Ruxlow, McPherson College and Gena Strathman, First Bank Kansas, who filled an unexpired term and therefore is eligible to serve a full term.

The Nominating Committee respectfully submits the following names in nomination for your approval: Gena Strathman, First Bank Kansas; Bret McClendon, USD #418; Gina Venable, Venable Jewelers and Andy Elliott, Elliott Insurance and Real Estate.

Save the Date Kansas Global Trade Services Training in McPherson

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce and MIDC will be host to a presentation by Kansas Global Trade Services on Wednesday, April 24th, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Chamber Office located at 306 N. Main.

Kansas Global is a full service trade advisory firm dedicated to building international growth and commerce. They have a variety of services to fit your company's individual needs, ranging from global information to strategic marketing. Recently, Kansas Global was awarded a grant to help 8 rural Kansas counties expand their international business. Grant funds are available to underwrite the cost of providing trade assistance to companies and to help

communities enhance their overall global presence.

- Who should attend
- Companies with export potential
 - Companies already doing international business
 - Companies wanting to expand to a new foreign market
 - Companies needing to ensure they are compliant with current trade regulations
 - Companies wanting to improve their global supply chain efficiency

If you are interested in meeting with Kansas Global representatives after the presentation for a one on one session, email Ella at reusser@kansasglobal.org or to set up a time.

If you are interested in hearing the presentation contact the Chamber at 241-3303 or Brad Ellits at 245-2521 to reserve a seat. Seating is limited.

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Anne Hassler
CVB Director

From the McPherson Convention & Visitors Bureau

Celebrate art with us May 4

By the time you read this our new mural in the 100 block of South Main Street should be installed. This mural has been in the works since this time last year when I first approached local artist R. Bolton Smith to create a painting in honor of the 100th anniversary of All Schools Day. Bob liked the idea so much he ended up donating the use of his artwork in creating the mural and a collectible poster. I personally love Bob's vision of how he remembers the All School Day parades from his youth. After working on the commemorative book for the 100th anniversary of the celebration I appreciate Bob's painting even more. The bright colors, bal-

loons, scouts marching in the parade, Uncle Sam and the May Queen; it's hard to think of a more iconic depiction of All Schools Day. To keep it going for 100 years is something the community should really feel proud about.

Another group who should be proud is Central Christian College of Kansas art instructor Naomi Ullum and her students. They worked tirelessly on the mural last summer and got it done in record time. I think converting the painting to 20'x16' mural was their toughest to date given the style of the painting. Naomi is a treasure and our mural program would not be the quality it is without her.

The mural dedication is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, May 4 in front of the mural followed by a reception at the McPherson Opera House. The public is encouraged to attend. The Heritage Gallery will also have all of the ASD button artwork on display and the McPherson Art Alliance will create sidewalk chalk art outside weather permitting. Posters will be 20"x16" and cost \$15.



Anne Kirchner
Director

From the United Way of McPherson County

During my short time at United Way of McPherson County, I have discovered a great need in our community for financial resources related to medical transportation. Our office receives weekly phone calls from individuals seeking financial assistance for travel to medical appointments.

The fund is the result of personal struggles faced by McPherson residents Mark and Melissa Tipton whose health issues required medical services outside the county. Their \$10,000 pledge to the McPherson Healthcare Foundation will bring hope to others dealing with similar situations.

Because McPherson County is a rural community, many residents must travel long distances to receive medical services. Patients can travel more than 150 miles one way to receive treatment for heart, cancer or dialysis conditions. The financial burdens increase quickly.

It frustrates me when all I can do is recommend one or two agencies that might be able to help. There's no guarantee as those resources are also limited. Each phone call motivates me toward finding a better solution.

The Mark and Melissa Tipton Fund is dedicated to the enhancement of healthcare transportation for all residents of McPherson County. While full funds will not be available until July 1, 2014, arrangements have been made for individuals to apply for emergency funds of up to \$100 until the first full allocations are available.

Last week I encountered a glimmer of hope. The Mark and Melissa Tipton Fund was recently created at the McPherson Healthcare Foundation to assist McPherson County residents with transportation to medical treatments.

The fund has opened the doorway for a true solution. Additional contributions can be made to increase and sustain the fund. Contact the McPherson Healthcare Foundation at 620-245-0130 for more information.

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