

The Chamber Business Journal

November 2016

Doing what most people think just happens!

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

Congratulations & Welcome to the Chamber!

McPherson Community Theatre, Inc.
P.O. Box 542
McPherson, KS 67460
Phone: 620-241-1374
Contact: Mary Hughes
Rena Parr
Facebook: McPherson Community Theatre

The McPherson Community Theatre has a long history of providing quality stage productions and theatrical opportunities for the region. Producing 2-3 shows a year, the goal has always been to offer family-friendly entertainment at an accessible price. The McPherson Community Theatre allows individuals to discover and develop their talent in a fun, supportive environment. Whether your interest is acting, singing, dancing, familytime, so we encourage the whole family to participate in their area of interest. They always welcome new faces and ideas, so please contact them and let them know you would like to become involved.

Burch Construction
1313 Lyndon Road
McPherson, KS
Phone: 620-755-5796
Contact: Travis Burch
Facebook: Burch Construction

Established in 2014, **Burch Construction, LLC** is working diligently to provide quality construction to those within our community. Holding an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau, **Burch Construction** is capable of meeting all of your constructional needs. With years of experience completing home remodels, designing and executing new construction projects and improving commercial properties, the possibilities are limitless. The owner and operator is a McPherson native looking to give back to his small town roots; building relationships with customers and supporting local businesses. **Burch Construction: Exceeding Expectations, Guaranteed Quality.**

Save The Date! McPherson Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting

Building community and supporting business is what the McPherson Chamber of Commerce has done for 95 years. Since 1921, the McPherson Chamber of Commerce has been an organization dedicated to promoting the economic growth in our community. The Chamber of Commerce recognizes that we didn't do it alone. The

Chamber prides itself in having strongly devoted, community-oriented members, mutual support & collaboration among city and county government and organizations. Please join us to celebrate another successful Chamber Year!

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. Best Western Holiday Manor Convention Center
McPherson Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting

2015-2016 Annual Review & Recognition of Outgoing Board Members
2016-2017 Initiatives & Introduction of Board Members

2016 President's Award Honoree - Kyle Hawk of Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd LLC

\$20.00 per person - reservations required Call 241-3303 by Tuesday, November 1st

Looking for Ambassadors

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors are a committee of the Chamber that consists of individuals that want to be involved in the community. The Ambassadors are a business-relationship program and are the backbone of our volunteer force. Ambassadors are outgoing, sales oriented and smile often. Serving as an Ambassador is a prestigious and honorable position. The Ambassadors meeting the 2nd Monday of the month at 12:00 at the Chamber Office. They attend and emcee ribbon cutting ceremonies, they assist in building relationships with new member investors. They provide feedback so we can continue to deliver programming that gives our members the tools needed to advance their businesses. To be an Ambassador you must be a current member in good standing of the Chamber or an employee of a member business for at least 1 year; be dependable, and enjoy meeting others.

From the McPherson Chamber of Commerce



Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

It is hard to believe, but Christmas really is just around the corner. It seems as soon as the kiddos go to school time just flies with all the holidays that are crunched into the next 4 months (Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years). The Chamber and Main Street start working on plans for the McPherson Home for the Holidays Christmas Promotion and the Holiday Open House

Weekend - the first weekend of November! It seems a little early, but this date as proved successful over the years and is does not conflict with other community holiday open house schedules. As the date approaches, it becomes apparent that it is the perfect time for retailers to be showcasing what they have - shoppers attending the open houses are getting ideas for those on their list. We know it is crazy for retailers to have to transition from Halloween right into Christmas without giving much recognition for Thanksgiving. I have been watching in the media that some box store retailers are not going to participate in the Black Friday events -

I think that is a good call - it allows their employees to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday before the Christmas craziness begins.

We have movies, Cookies with Santa, Snowball Drop, Candy Cane Cash to add to a lot of other holiday events happening in McPherson. Listen to the radio station, watch tv, read your local newspapers and watch on Facebook.

Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

DQ GRILL & CHILL WINNERS

Congratulations to All in One Safety LLC, 1401 S. Old 81 Bypass, McPherson. They are the winner of a DQ Cake. Thank you Roger and Karen Horn, owners of DQ Grill and Chill, 1435 N. Main for providing the monthly DQ ice cream treat.

From Our Family ...To Yours

Your Confidence Is Our Reputation

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Troy Glidden - Director

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2015 - 2016 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

President – Adrian Morales, Hess Oil • President Elect – Brad Mears, Kansas Municipal Utilities
 Treasurer – Josh Menard, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd • Past President – Dr. Brandon Stupka, Stupka Chiropractic & Wellness Center
 Board of Director– Tracy Sterling – Hall’s Culligan Water • Janet Lynch – CertainTeed Corporation • Zac Hoppes – Farmers State Bank
 Katie Sawyer – McPherson College • Tom Saffel – Prairie Landworks • Brad Bengtson – Home State Bank
 Janey Anderson – A5 Western • Mark Crawford – USD #418 Staff: Jennifer Burch – Executive Director
 Debbie Hawkinson – Administrative Assistant • Alesia Stout – Program Assistant

Looking for New Hires? Check Out the Work Opportunity Tax Credit

As businesses hire new employees sometimes not everyone is aware of the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC). The WOTC is a Federal tax credit that is available to employers who hire and retain veterans and individuals from other target groups with significant barriers to employment. Employers claim about \$1 billion in tax credits each year under the WOTC program. There is no limit on the number of individuals an employer can hire to qualify to claim the tax credit. WOTC joins other workforce programs that incentivize workplace diversity and facilitate access to good jobs for American workers. WOTC helps targeted workers move from economic dependency into self-sufficiency as they earn a steady income and become contributing taxpayers, while participating employers are able to reduce their income tax liability.

The maximum tax credit amounts depend on the wages paid to the new hire, the new employee’s target group and the number of hours worked during the first year of employment. The tax credit amounts range from \$1,200 to \$9,600. On December 18, 2015, President

Obama signed into law the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 (the PATH Act) that extends and modifies the WOTC Program. In summary, the

PATH Act:

- Retroactively reauthorizes the WOTC program target groups for a five-year period, from December 31, 2014 to December 31, 2019.

- Introduces a new target group, Qualified Long-term Unemployment Recipients, for new hires that begin to work for an employer on or after January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2019.

There are approximately 5,873 Employers in Kansas that utilize the WOTC program. The WOTC unit averages 38,000 applications a year.

For more information about the WOTC program, please contact the Kansas Department of Commerce - Ashla Stowe at ashla.stowe@ks.gov or call (785) 296-7435 or go to WOTC.

Celebrating Business Success!

Thursday, November 3 at 9:30 a.m. - A new McPherson business providing a unique service. The father and son team Brian & Ian Smith have perfected their brewing skills and have opened started Three Rings Brewery located at 536 S. 81 Bypass. Join them in learn more about the process and the history of the name.

Wednesday, November 9 at 10:00 a.m. - Central Kansas Foundation is moving into a larger much needed space located at 208 S. Main. Central Kansas Foundation is a nonprofit organization founded in 1967 with a mission to provide quality and affordable alcohol and other drug abuse treatment and prevention services. Learn more about the expanded services that Central Kansas Foundation provides for our community.

Thursday, November 17 at 4:00 p.m. -Are you ready? The doors are open, the staff is trained, the Hampton Inn is open for business! Located at 200 N. Centennial Drive, the Hampton Inn can reserve a room for you or your visiting family for the holidays. Join us at the ribbon cutting to tour the newest hotel in McPherson.

Christmas in McPherson Snowball Drop

Thursday, November 3

@5:00pm - Main & Marlin

Holiday Open House Weekend

Friday, November 4th

Saturday November 5th

& Sunday, November 6th

Don't forget to ask about Candy Cane Cash. McPherson is where Santa Shops!

chamber events

October

- 8 7:00 a.m. Agriculture Committee @ Perkins Restaurant, 2111 E. Kansas
- 11:30 a.m. Chamber Annual Meeting Lunch @ Best Western Holiday Manor Convention Center, 2211 E. Kansas
- 20 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee at HCC-McPherson Campus, 2208 E. Kansas
- 5:30 p.m. Growing Rural Businesses @ ACCK, 208 S. Main
- 21 12:00 noon Overtime Regulations – Are You Ready @ ACCK, 208 S. Main
- 9 10:00 a.m. Ribbon Cutting at New Location – Central Kansas Foundation, 208 S. Main
- 27 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee @ Fresh Ideas, - McPherson College Campus
- 10 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by First Bank Kansas, 1301 N. Main
- 11:30 a.m. Chamber Board @ Chamber
- 14 12:00 noon Ambassadors @ Chamber
- 5:30 p.m. Growing Rural Businesses @ ACCK, 208 S. Main
- 15 4:00 p.m. Chamber Focus Group @ Chamber

November

- 2 12:00 noon Leadership Board @ Chamber
- 3 9:30 a.m. Ribbon Cutting & Chamber Coffee at Three Rings Brewery, 536 S. 81 Bypass
- 5:30 p.m. Snowball Drop on the Plaza
- Growing Rural Businesses @ ACCK, 208 S. Main
- 4-6 Holiday Open Houses in McPherson
- 16 11:30 a.m. Chamber Focus Group @ Chamber 4:00 p.m. Women’s Event Committee @ Chamber
- 17 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee @ McPherson Healthcare Foundation, 1000 Hospital Drive, Hess Center 2 nd Floor, use East Annex Entrance
- 4:00 p.m. Ribbon Cutting for Hampton Inn, 200 Centennial Drive
- 24 & 25 Happy Thanksgiving – office closed

United Way’s Campaign Kickoff / Special Event



Stuart Dille
Executive Director

WHERE DO THE DOLLARS GO?

We get asked this question a lot and it is a very valid one. The answer is simple. Other than a small 1% of our annual campaign that goes to the national

United Way, all other monies stay right here in McPherson County.

Through our funding, we helped serve 6,828 individuals last year alone. That number included 2,610 in McPherson, 1,106 in Canton, 560 in Galva, 778 in Inman, 954 in Lindsborg, 235 in Marquette, 502 in Moundridge, 8 in Roxbury, and 75 in Windom.

Your dollars helped serve 16,000 meals to Seniors who might not otherwise have had a meal that day.

Those dollars also assisted 28 families in the extremely difficult feat of breaking the cycle of poverty. Free swim lessons were given to 299 2 nd graders. These are just a few examples of how your donations have a real impact, and there are so many more. So, where do the dollars go? They go to assist vital organizations in helping an incredible number of people, county-wide.

THANK YOU!!

Stuart Dille,
Executive Director

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