

December 2013

The Chamber @WORK

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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!

Next Element Consulting, LLC
414 N. Main, Suite 200
Newton, KS 67114
Contact: **Jamie Remsberg, Michele Ediger, Nate Regier, Ph.D.**
Phone: 316-283-4200
Fax: 316-283-4208
Web: www.next-element.com

At Next Element they help organizations and people realize their potential. They can assist you in building a culture that not only survives change, but thrives through change. Equipping you with the most effective strategies to positively influence and motivate others toward excellence. Their specialties include: Culture Change, Communication Training, Conflict Resolution, Leadership Development, Workplace Drama, Diversity, Change Management, Employee Engagement, talent Development, Process Communication Model, Performance Reviews, Personality Assessment.
Businesses they service: Health Care, Assisted Living Facilities, Education, Financial Institutions, and Manufacturing.

Americas Best Value Inn
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Contact: **Sunny Desai**
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Factory Connection
2210 E. Kansas Ave., McPherson, KS
Phone: 620-504-5050
Contact: **Dianna Litzel-District Manager**
Lisa Unruh-Store Manager
Web: www.factory-connection.com

Factory Connection began in 1976 as one store with approximately 1,000 square feet in downtown Guntersville, Alabama. Today the company is a regional retail leader with 270+ stores across 14 states, and more than 1 million square feet in store space.
As it has done for more than 36 years, Factory Connection is committed to providing convenient access to the latest fashions for customers in smaller towns. With our innovative concept and strong relationships with major manufacturers, we are pleased to make major fashion brands available - and affordable - for everyone.
Every week, for the next 5 weeks, Factory Connection in McPherson will be giving away a \$50 gift card. See store for details.

Thank You for your Membership Renewals

The following is a list of member renewals from 10/11/13 to 11/14/2013 who support the work the Chamber does on their behalf as well as the betterment of the McPherson community and area. We encourage you to support them!

Cartridge King, Robert's Hutchline, Viega, Nuvita Health & Wellness, Williams Energy, Horizon Real Estate (Kristi Fowler), Horizon Real Estate (Lori Vontz), Brooklyn & Co., Fee Insurance, Stutzman's Greenhouse, Tim Cheatham Construction, Four Season Realtors (James Nelson), The Real Pits BBQ, Nation Pizza Products, Community Foot Clinic, Hutchinson Community College - McPherson Campus, Rivercross Hospice, Taco John's, Assured Occupational Solutions, McPherson Public Library, McPherson Sentinel, McPherson Public Library, Boesker Construction, RC Heating & Cooling, Atelier Design and Print, Wetlands Irrigation, LLC, Stephan Schaefer, McPherson Business Solutions, McPherson Arts Alliance, Kansas Gas Service, Genesis Health Clubs, Senator Jay Emmer, American Maplan, Light Capital Media, Joseph Mines, CPA, Wendy's, Sherwin-Williams, Voyage Hospice Care (formerly Harden Hospice), Family Practice (Dr. Gregory Thomas, Dr. David Buller, Dr. Sheila Gorman, Dr. Shelley Overholt) McPherson College.

Newcomers Welcome!

Are you or someone you know new to the McPherson community area? The McPherson Chamber of Commerce and GoMcPherson would like to invite you to attend **McPherson New Comers and Friends!** This is a new and laid back social gathering established to help new residents, whether you are making McPherson your hometown or are just here temporarily, we want you to feel welcome and to provide you with all the information you need to be comfortable in McPherson.

Please join us on the 1st Thursday of the month at the McPherson Chamber of Commerce, 306 N. Main, McPherson at 5:15 - 6:00 p.m. For questions or more information contact Jennifer at jennifer@mcphersonks.org or Kasi at kmorales@gomcpherson.com

2013 Leadership McPherson Class to Graduate

Leadership is not a one-day thing. It is a constant commitment to excellence, a habit... a daily practice.

You are invited to the Leadership McPherson Class Celebration Lunch on Tuesday, December 17 - 11:30 a.m. at the McPherson Country Club. Those graduating are: Megan Anderson - **Kansas Secured Title**, Celeste Carlson - **McPherson County Community Foundation**, Graham Crain - **Central Christian College of Kansas**, Janelle Flory-Schrock - **Dyck Arboretum of the Plains**, Jessica Griffith - **Massage Therapist**, Kendra Hopp - **First Bank Kansas**, Sherry Jerome - **WinField Solutions**, Adrian Morales - **Home State Bank & Trust**, Mike Terry - **City of McPherson Police Department** and Julie Wondra - **Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chtd.**
If you would like to join in the celebration lunch, please call the Chamber at 241-3303 by Thursday, December 12 to make your reservation. The cost of the lunch is \$15.00 per person.



From the McPherson Chamber of Commerce

This time of year it seems we all become more aware of what we are thankful for, when we should be taking the time to acknowledge our blessings everyday. I am so fortunate to have so much to be thankful personally and professionally. I have a wonderful family that are my inspiration to always do my best and strive to do better. Without their support and understanding over the years I would not have been able to do my job.

I work for a phenomenal organization. The McPherson Chamber of Commerce has allowed me to grow and learn many things over the 25 years I have been here. I get to be creative, meet new people and the opportunity to work side by side with others who care as much about the success of our community, county and state as I do. The Chamber of Commerce has so many facets to it; it makes it difficult even for me to explain all that we do and the impact that we have. We are a community cheerleader - we are always rallying for the good of McPherson. We are a community developer - what can we do to make McPherson better? We are a business advocate - what is good for business? Have a wonderful holiday.

2009 LEADERSHIP MCPHERSON CLASS PROJECT UPDATE

As a member of Leadership McPherson class, part of the curriculum and requirement of graduation of the programs is to apply the leadership skills on a class project that benefits the youth of McPherson. The 2009 Leadership McPherson Class helped to establish two programs to provide nutritious food for children in the McPherson area.

The first project, the class became familiar with the Food 4 Kids program offered by the Kansas Food Bank. This program provides backpacks of food for elementary and middle school kids each weekend of the school year. The food is delivered weekly to a central location and then is delivered to the schools and distributed to the kids in a discrete manner. This of course would not have been possible without the consent and support of the McPherson School District #418. In 2010 school year, 106 students were being provided with weekend backpacks of food, current numbers are 89 students.

The class realized that while the kids were now being nourished during the school year, September-May, what about the month they are home from summer break? After much work with local churches, organizations and foundations, the McPherson Summer Lunch Program was established. Collaborating with the United Way of McPherson and The McPherson County Community Foundation, the class worked to put the program in place; finding volunteers to purchase food, sack the food and deliver the food, finding cash and food donations to get the program funded and putting together a method for children in need.

2009 Leadership McPherson Class members: Jodi Baerg (Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball), Carianne Short (ESSDACK), Steve Burghart (CertainTeed), Lanae Powell (Ellene McKean & Associates), Andy Edwardson (Farmers Alliance), Reed Hardgrave (Ferguson Production), Patty Eccles (First Baptist Church), Tiffani Eilrich (Home State Bank & Trust), Ryan Achilles (IBM), Debbie Hawkinson (McPherson Chamber of Commerce), John Helmer (McPherson Hospital EMS), Jennifer Cantrell (MCDS), Amy Beckman (NCRA), Abbey Pontius (Express Print & Dirt Cheap Banners), and Christy Almuick (Sunflower Bank).

If you see/know any of these class members - be sure to thank them for what they have done for the youth of McPherson.

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2013 - 2014 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

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Treasurer- Jaymie Rothrock, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd • Past President- Dell Reese, Dirt Cheap Banners
Directors: Chad Clark, McPherson Healthcare Foundation, Troy Short, Hospira, Corey Hoover, Midway Motors, Ted Odle, Home State Bank & Trust, Andy Elliot, Elliott Insurance & Real Estate, Gina Venable, Venable Jewelers, Bred McClendon, UDS #418 and Michelle Cullen, Welco Services.

chamber events

- November**
- 21st** 9:30a Chamber Coffee
 hosted by McPherson Family Life Center @ the Chamber
 11:30a Chamber Board @ The Cedar Cafe
- 23rd** 10a Ribbon Cutting for Genesis Health Club @ 601 N. Main
- 26th** 8:30a 2013 Leadership McPherson @ Chamber
- 28th** Thanksgiving
- 29th** Office Closed
- December**
- 3rd** 12p Ambassadors @ Chamber
- 4th** 12p Leadership Board of Trustees @ Chamber
- 5th** 9:30a Chamber Coffee and
- Ribbon Cutting for McPherson Quality Air, 501 N. 81 Bypass
 5:15p Welcome Newcomers @ Chamber
- 10th** 7a Ag Committee @ Perkins
 12 Community Development @ Chamber
- 12th** 9:30a Chamber Coffee at USD #418, 514 N. Main
- 17th** 8:30a Leadership Class @ Chamber
 11:30a Leadership Class Celebration @ McPherson Country Club
- 18th** 4p Woman's Event Committee @ Chamber
- 19th** 9:30a Chamber Coffee @ Farmers Insurance - Wilkins Agency, 110 E. Euclid
- 24th** 12p Chamber Office Closes
- 25th** Merry Christmas Chamber Closed

MCPHERSON... WHERE SANTA SHOPS!

- November 1st - December 31: Candy Cane Cash** - Shop at participating stores and receive a stamp for every \$10 spent. Each time you get 5 stamps, enter to win \$500 in Candy Cane Cash. **Trolley Christmas Light Tour** Advance Tickets go on sale at CUB for \$5 each, call 800-324-8022 or 241-3340 or book a private tour.
- November 30th: Free Movie "The Polar Express"** 3:00pm at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main sponsored by Opera House Volunteers, Dr. Tyler & Mary Hughes, The Furniture Store, McPherson County Abstract, Lanae Powell Realtor Ellene McKean & Associates, Mower Medic.
- December 5th: Cookies with Santa**, 5:30-7:00pm at Wendy's 610 N. Main. (photos by Walgreens); Stores open late; strolling Christmas Carols by Elyria Christian School students 7-8p.m. **Trolley Christmas Light Tour** 6, 7, & 8 p.m. at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main.
- December 7th: Mini Main** -10a.m. - 1p.m., McPherson Community Building, corner of Ash & Marlin; cookies, crafts, children's shopping. Santa sponsored by Ellene McKean and Associates. (photos by Walgreens). **Cookies with Santa**, 3-4:30 p.m. at Patriot Pawn, 2000 E. Kansas. (photos by Walgreens).
- December 8th: Cookies with Santa**, 1-2:30 p.m. at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 105 W. Sutherland, sponsored by Client Centered Counseling. (photos by Walgreens). **Free Movie "White Christmas"** 3p.m. at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main sponsored by Clayworks at Disability Supports.
- December 12th: Cookies with Santa**, 5:30-7p.m. at The Village Geek, 116 N. Main (photos by Walgreens); Stores open late; Strolling Christmas Carols by Sounds of the Heartland Chorus 7-8p.m. **Trolley Christmas Light Tours** 6, 7, & 8p.m. at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main.
- December 14th: Cookies with Santa**, 9-10:30a.m. at Daylight Donuts, 122 N. Main. (photos by Walgreens). **Cookies with Santa**, 2-3:30p.m. at Clayworks, 107 N. Main. (photos by Walgreens) **Free Movie "Arthur's Christmas"** 3 p.m. at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main, sponsored by H&R Block, Stockham Family Funeral Home, Ellene McKean & Associates, Daylight Donuts, MiMacPrinter, McPherson Convention & Visitors Bureau, Peoples Bank & Trust.
- December 19th: Cookies with Santa**, 5-7:30 p.m. at Stupka Chiropractic & Wellness Center 114 W. Euclid, (photos by Walgreens). Stores open late; strolling Christmas Carols by McPherson Arts Council Children's Choir 7-8 p.m. **Trolley Christmas Light Tours** 6, 7, & 8 p.m. at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main.
- December 21st: Cookies with Santa**, 9-10:30 a.m. at Hopp's Sound & Electric, 214 E. Euclid, (photos by Walgreens). **Free Movie "12 Dogs of Christmas: The Great Puppy Rescue"** 3 p.m. at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main, sponsored by McPherson Family Life Center, Wendy's, First Bank Kansas, Dr. Ken & Michelle Cotton, KNGL/KBBE Radio, Home State Bank, Cartridge King of Kansas. **Trolley Christmas Light Tours** 6, 7, & 8 p.m. at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main.
- December 23rd: Trolley Christmas Light Tours**, 6, 7, & 8 p.m. at McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main.

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
 November 18 and December 9.

Dates for 2014 will be the 2nd Monday, January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13.

November 10 and December 8.
 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 DQ Ice Cream Cake. This month's lucky winner is **H&R Block**, 1346 N. Main, McPherson, KS 67460

Thank you to Karen & Roger Horn for providing this opportunity for our Chamber members.



From the United Way of McPherson County

I have resided in McPherson for nearly 25 years and have always enjoyed the beauty of the holiday season. Downtown merchants decorate their storefronts with festive dishware, clothing and gifts. Schools host jubilant musical concerts. The city provides the annual trolley tours of community lights.

But the most meaningful holiday tradition for me is watching the spirit of giving unfold. My role with United Way has provided enhanced opportunity to witness some amazing programs. These programs not only help local individuals but some are designed to touch lives throughout the global community.

This year the communities of McPherson and Lindsborg hosted Alternative Giving Markets, which included settings

of non-profit organizations displaying their services and being available for candid conversations. Shoppers learned about various needs and services, and had the opportunity to purchase gifts by making cash donations to the non-profits of their choice. In a society where most of us have everything we need, I can't think of a better way to honor a loved one while helping someone who has a true need.

Another powerful community program is The Angel Tree, which is coordinated by volunteers associated with the McPherson Resource Council. Families demonstrating financial need are supported through a community "adoption" process. The end result allows parent not provide a meaningful holiday celebrate for their children. The program's success is built upon collaborative efforts offered by the McPherson Kiwanis Club providing food baskets and the McPherson Optimist Club providing age-appropriate toys. This year NCRA joined the cause by donating winter coats.

And who can ignore the community dinners associated with Thanksgiving and Christmas? It takes fleet of volunteers to provide these incredible meals - food preparation, table service, facility clean up. Dedicating one's holiday to serving others is one of the kindest gifts I can ever imagine.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
 McPherson Chamber of Commerce, McPherson Main Street, & McPherson Convention & Visitors Bureau

Ribbon Cuttings Scheduled to Celebrate Opening

Please join in the ribbon cutting celebrations for two of the newest businesses to the McPherson business community!

Saturday, November 23 @ 10:00 a.m.
Genesis Health Club, 601 N. Main
Thursday, December 5 @ 9:30 a.m.
McPherson Quality Air, 501 N. 81 Bypass
 Congratulations and best wishes!

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