

The Chamber Business Journal

December 2017

Doing what most people think just happens!

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

It's Looking A lot Like Christmas in McPherson

The joint holiday promotion between the McPherson Chamber of Commerce and McPherson Main Street "McPherson . . . Where Santa Shops" is in full force.

Now-December 31 - Shop the following participating businesses and get your stamp for every \$10 you spend to be eligible for Candy Cane Cash. Triple value stamps on Girls & Guys Night Out and Double Value stamps on Thursday & Sundays. The prize money has been increased so there will be 2 BIG Winners - a \$1,000 and \$500 winner!

A5 Western, Artshirt-Gear for Sport, Brooklyn & Co., Brown's Shoe Fit, CK Pharmacy, Clayworks, Creative Hairlines Spa & Salon, Graber's Ace Hardware, Hopp's Sound, McPherson Hospital Gift Shop, Nooks & Crannies Flora, Rusty Tin Boutique & Vintage, Simmerz Tanning Salon, Simply Good Overstocks, Stitches Quilt Shop, Stupka Chiropractic & Wellness Center, The Bookshelf, The Cooks Nook, The Finish, The Stone Chimney, The Village Geek, The Well, Twice Told Tales, Venable Jewelers.

November 25 - * FREE movie "Beauty & The Beast" sponsored by the McPherson Convention & Visitors Bureau" at 3:00 p.m. at the McPherson Opera House

November 30 - Girls Night Out, 6:00-9:00 p.m. - Get what you really want for Christmas - start a Wish List. The McPherson Convention & Visitors Bureau Trolley will providing rides. Stop in and browse the following participating stores to get those ideas on the list. Three Rings Brewery, Grabers ACE Hardware, The Stone Chimney, Rusty Tin Boutique & Vintage, The Bookshelf, Creative Hairlines Spa & Salon, Venable Jewelers, Brooklyn & Co., Hopp's Sound, Stitches Quilt Shop, The Cooks Nook

December 3 - * FREE movie "Arthur Christmas" sponsored by Clayworks at 3:00 p.m. at the McPherson Opera House

December 7 - Cookies with Santa, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Wendy's 610 N. Main

Guys Night Out, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Get what you want also for Christmas. Put it in writing on your wish list. Shop the participating store for ideas. Three Rings Brewery, Grabers Ace Hardware, The Stone Chimney, Rusty Tin Boutique & Vintage, The Bookshelf, Creative Hairlines Spa & Salon, Venable Jewelers, Brooklyn & Co., Hopp's Sound, Stitches Quilt Shop, The Cooks Nook

December 9 - Cookies with Santa, 9:30 -11:00 a.m. at Nex-Tech Wireless, 200 S. Champlain & 2:00-3:30 p.m. at The Village Geek, 116 N. Main

December 10 - *FREE movie "Pete's Dragon" sponsored by *see list below at 3:00 p.m. at the McPherson Opera House

December 14 - Cookies with Santa, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Stupka Chiropractic & Wellness Center, 114 W. Euclid

December 16 - Cookies with Santa, 9:30 -11:00 a.m. at Clayworks, 107 N. Main & 2:00-3:30 p.m. at Grabers Ace Hardware, 311 N. Main

December 17 - *FREE movie "The Good Dinosaur" sponsored by *see list below at 3:00 p.m. at the McPherson Opera House

December 21 - Cookies with Santa, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at KNGI/KBBE Radio, 411 E. Euclid

December 23 - Cookies with Santa, 9:30 -11:00 a.m. at TBD & 2:00-3:30 p.m. at Papa Murphys, 1352 N. Main

*Movie Sponsors: Midway Motors, Brown's Shoe Fit, Stout Printing Apparel & Promo, Kansas Secured Title, HCC-McPherson, Stitches Quilt Shop, Stockham Family Funeral Home, Ken Cotton DDS, Home State Bank & Trust, The Stone Chimney, Elliott Insurance & Real Estate, The Finish, Plan 4 Architecture Design, MTC, Daylight Donuts, LSI Staffing, First Bank Kansas, Rinse & Roll Car Wash, H & R Block, Ellene McKean & Associates Dominos.

We thank the McPherson Convention & Visitors Bureau for the grant that assisted in the funding of the McPherson Christmas Promotion.

From the McPherson Chamber of Commerce



Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

On Saturday, November 25, many communities nationwide will be recognizing Small Business Saturday, including McPherson (thank you McPherson Main Street). The

effort by American Express is to bring more holiday shopping to small businesses.

When you are doing your holiday shopping, think brick & mortar, think local first - give our McPherson businesses the opportunity to fill your holiday shopping needs. You may be surprised of what is available right here in McPherson. Check out the participating businesses that reward you with the Candy Cane Cash registrations for shopping.

Shopping small, shopping local does not mean expensive, lack of choice or quality. Quit often shopping local, shopping small

means better customer service. Get out and get to know your business community. Some interesting facts : there are 250,021 small businesses in operation across the state of Kansas which make up 99.20% of all the businesses. In fact, 10,723 new jobs were created in 2014 alone meaning 51.30% of all employees in Kansas are working for a small business. Small businesses help ensure the local economy stays strong and vibrant.

Think McPherson!

Based on data from the Office of Advocacy's Small Business Profiles, which are annual analyses of each state's small business activities that gather the latest information from key federal data agencies. "Small business" is defined as a firm employing fewer than 500 employees.)

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2017 - 2018 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

President – Brad Mears, Kansas Municipal Utilities • President-Elect – Aaron Mayfield, Edward Jones

Treasurer – Josh Menard, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd • Past President – Adrian Morales, Hess Oil

Board of Directors: Katie Sawyer – Sawyer Land & Cattle • Tom Saffel – Prairie Landworks • Brad Bengtson – Home State Bank

Janey Anderson – A5 Western • Gordon Mohn – USD #418 • Kelly Pitts – Prairieland Partners

Chuck Singleton – Central States Marketing • Dr. Trent Timson – Community Foot Clinic

Staff: Jennifer Burch, Executive Director • Debbie Hawkinson, Administrative Assistant • Alesia Stout, Program Assistant.

96th Chamber Annual Meeting Held

A successful 2016-2017 Chamber year led by Adrian Morales of Hess Oil was celebrated recently at a lunch meeting on November 15. Adrian thanked retiring board members and presented them with framed certificates; Tracy Sterling – Culligan Water and Zac Hoppes of Farmers State Bank.

- Adrian presented a brief overview of the accomplishments of the past fiscal year:
- The McPherson Chamber of Commerce is 368 members strong representing 11,391 employees.
 - Hosted 20 ribbon cutting ceremonies
 - Held 84 committee meetings
 - 51 Chamber Connections were held
 - Held 29 special events totaling a participation of 1,916 attendees
 - 794 ChamberChecks were issued totaling \$24,540
 - During last year's Christmas promotion (a cooperative promotion with the Main Street organization) 5,640 Candy Cane registrations equaling \$50 were entered totaling \$282,000 spent in 24 participating stores.
 - 7 manufacturers participated in the 2016 McPherson County Manufacturing Month by opening their doors to over 350 students and the general public.
 - The Chamber's mobile friendly website has received 18,250 page views, and online referrals from the business directory of 152,625.
 - In late 2016 the Chamber Board approved the participation in a coalition of other Chamber organizations in the South Central Kansas area. The coalition wanted to demonstrate to our legislators that we were united representing 13,000 small and large businesses.

The board's opinion is that other Chamber organizations similar to ours and their members needed an alternative voice representing local interests and local issues to advocate for policies which we believe create a strong economy, a qualified and nimble workforce, a sustainable infrastructure and ultimately a quality of life which retains our best and brightest and attracts businesses and talent to Kansas.

The coalition is aware of the difficult choices state government has been faced with in recent years with a challenging economy and dwindling revenues. They believe it is critical to emphasize how statewide decisions impact efforts to attract and retain jobs in communities across the state.

State government is responsible to educate our children; provide certain levels of infrastructure for travel of our citizens as well as the movement of goods and service; and, additionally, to care for a percent of our population which do not have the ability to care for themselves.

The Chambers represented from the South Central Kansas area see the coalition as an opportunity to work together on common issues. The goal is to maximize the influence of our region and reinforce the powerful voice of business. There are no monetary commitments; our Chamber name and logo is listed on the regional agenda which is distributed to legislators.

Adrian then introduced Jason Hoover of Midway Motors as the honoree for the 2017 President's Award. Each year the Past Presidents of the Chamber meet to make a selection of an individual that has given unselfishly of their time for the betterment of the business community, and is readily identifiable and has long term impact.

Jason is the son of Glenn and Joyce Hoover. He graduated from McPherson High School in 1993 and attended K-State, graduating in 1997 with a degree in Business Administration/Finance. Jason married his high school sweetheart Trisha Wedel in 1995. They have four sons – Casen, Gabe, Aiden, and Blaise.

In 1997 Jason caught the entrepreneur bug by starting "Nuts to You," then franchised the business into a vending operation. In 1998 he started Deerfield Homes where they sold manufactured and modular housing units, built housing developments, and operated a concrete construction business. He closed business in 2005, with the opportunity to join and grow the family business Midway Motors.

Jason joined the Midway Motors team and started growing the business with their first acquisition of Lacy Motors of McPherson in 2006, then Irv Schroeder of Hillsboro in 2008, then Hamblen LaGreca of Hutchinson in 2009, the Buxman Motors of Newton in 2011, and finally Wallace Chevrolet of McPherson in 2015.

While growing the family business, Jason served as Chamber President in 2009-2010, following his father's footsteps – Glen served as Chamber President in 1995-1996. They are to be the only father and son that have served as President in the Chamber's 96 years. Also serving on the McPherson Opera House Board, YMCA, Kansas Auto Dealers Association, and Midwest Ford Dealers Association. In addition to the support Jason and Midway Motors has provided the Chamber and the various boards, he has given his time and resources. Since 2008 Midway Motors has raised approximately \$105,000 through the Ford Drive 4 UR School program and GM an Chrysler as well. The funds raised have been distributed through the booster club.

Adrian then officially turned the leadership of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce to Brad Mears of the Kansas Municipal Utilities, 2017-2018 Chamber President. Brad spoke about the continued success of the McPherson County Entrepreneurship Loan Program and the economic benefits it has brought to the City of McPherson and the county.

In October, McPherson County recognized Manufacturing Month with tours and open houses hosted by CertainTeed, Viega, Central Plastics, and Bradbury. The month long event brought 301 students and general public through the doors of the industries to showcase how industry/manufacturing is today and to encourage careers in the manufacturing sector.

Brad reported to the membership that the Chamber has been following the Executive Order that President Trump signed on October 12 promoting healthcare choice and competition in the United States. The Executive Order would allow small "like" businesses to group together to self-insure or purchase large group health insurance. The McPherson Chamber of Commerce has been researching a Chamber Healthcare Plan for several years. The Chamber wants to help small businesses overcome the competitive disadvantage and the costly requirements. Expanding access to Association Health Plans would provide more affordable health insurance options. A conference call has already taken place with providers. More details should be available next month regarding the Executive Order.

The 2017-2018 Chamber Board was introduced:
 President – Brad Mears, Kansas Municipal Utilities
 President Elect – Aaron Mayfield, Edward Jones
 Treasurer – Josh Menard, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd
 Past President – Adrian Morales, Hess Oil

Directors: Katie Sawyer – Sawyer Land & Cattle
 Tom Saffel – Prairie Land Works
 Chuck Singleton – Central State Marketing
 Janey Anderson – A5 Western
 Gordon Mohn – USD #418
 Dr. Trent Timson – Community Food Clinic
 Brad Bengtson – Home State Bank
 Kelly Pitts – PrairieLand Partners

chamber events

November

- 23 Happy Thanksgiving
- 24 Office Closed
- 30 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections @ The Stone Chimney, 1500 E. First
- 6-9 p.m. Ladies Night Out – McPherson . . . Where Santa Shops

December

- 7 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections @ Home State Bank, 223 N. Main
- 11 12:00 Ambassadors @ Chamber
- 12 7:00 a.m. Agriculture Committee @ Perkins
- 12:00 Community Development @ Chamber
- 13 4:00 p.m. Women's Event @ Chamber
- 14 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections @ VAAM Gallery, 223 S. Main
- 21 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections @ Bluestem PACE, 113 S. Ash
- 22 12:00 Chamber Office closes at 12:00
- 25 Closed Merry Christmas



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
— McPHERSON —

2017-2018 Chamber Investors – Thank you! (as of 11/16)

Brooklyn & Co. Bridal, Walgreens, Pfizer, Saxon Remote Systems, KNGL/KBBE Radio, BuySupps, Simply Good Overstocks, Kindred Hospice, Genesis Health Clubs, Kansas Bar & Grill, Atelier Design & Print, Craft Coffee, Krehbiels Specialty Meats, Rick Wilborn, McPherson Metals, CertainTeed, Sherwin Williams, Nex-Tech, Perkins Restaurant, Sounds Great, American Legion, Wichita Dwight D. Eisenhower Airport, Clean Freaks, Don Steffes, Central Christian College of Kansas, Associated Colleges of Central Kansas, Bluestem PACE, Brooklyn & Co., McPherson County Old Mill Museum, Save'n Share, Security First Title, Vogts Construction, McPherson Arts Alliance.



ROB MACKEY
 Executive Director

BE A LOCAL HERO

We are excited to announce our Be A Local Hero campaign. You have an opportunity to make a donation to the United Way in your favorite hero's name. The Local Hero that receives the largest number of nominations will be recognized as our Local Hero and the partner agency that nominated them will receive an extra \$300 donation from the United Way!

Brynne Weber Lindsborg/Marquette Summer Lunch Program

Brynne is 15 years old and lives in Marquette. She is a sophomore at Little River High School. This was her third year in charge of the Marquette

From the United Way of McPherson County

summer snack program. She prepared the menus and food and kept a tally of those served and other paperwork involved with this program. Last year, she participated in or organized 127 hours of volunteer work.

Abbey Archer-Rierson McPherson Family YMCA

Abbey currently serves as the Chief of Staff at McPherson College. She is a volunteer member of the YMCA board and is very active both within the Y and the Community. She was the YMCA's Volunteer of the year for 2016. During her time on the Board she has served on our local Public Policy Committee, attending Advocacy Days in Topeka and visiting our legislators.

Bud and Millie Star Meals On Wheels

Bud, who is 90 years of age, and Millie, who is 86, have been

delivering meals for 16 years. For the last approximately 14 years, they come every day. They are willing to drive any route that needs a substitute driver or any route that may be open and waiting for someone to volunteer to drive it. Millie also volunteers on the Meals on Wheels Board of Directors.

Neisha Dahlstrom Circles of McPherson County

Neisha was part of a small group that saw a need in our community and responded! They saw that families in poverty needed help to improve their situation and getting access to the resources available that could help them exit poverty. She was key in founding the local Circles chapter as the solution for this need.

Vote with a donation in your favorite hero's name at www.united-waymcpherson.org

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