

The Chamber Business Journal

May 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

Congratulations & Welcome to the Chamber!

EJ's Handyman Services

618 S. Edwards Avenue
Moundridge, KS 67107
Phone: 620-755-7102
Contacts: Errick Ferguson;
Wesley Heter
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00
a.m. -5:00 p.m.

EJ's Handyman Services is a new handyman company serving the people and businesses of McPherson County. Their services include: individual home and property repair, property development assistance, rental property maintenance, season services and other.

EJ's Handyman Services would like to serve McPherson County by filling the "small job" niche. They hope to learn and grow as businessmen within the community.

Roger's Locksmith Service

1600 Elyria Road
McPherson, KS 67460
Phone: 620-242-2338
Contact: Roger Beck
Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00
a.m.-5:00 p.m., 24/7Auto/Home
lockout

Roger's Locksmith Service is a continuation of Bill Bradford's Locksmith Service. After serving the McPherson community for over 40 years, Bill passed the business onto Roger Beck in 2014. All those who knew Bill know that he was a very loving and knowledgeable locksmith. Roger strives to continue that legacy, providing an all-around locksmith service that's both friendly and affordable.

Delish, LLC

204 N. Main
McPherson, KS 67460
Phone: 620-504-9221
Contacts: Ann Koehn; Dan
Gottheid
Website: www.delishinmac.com
Facebook: Delish-Tastelife
Hours: Monday-Saturday 7:00
a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Thursday
& Friday 5:00 p.m. to 10:00
p.m.

Delish is passionate about delicious food and great service. They offer a laid-back dining experience in a casual setting. Enjoy breakfast & lunch Monday-Saturday and dinner on Thursday & Friday. Salads, sandwiches, sliders, waffle sandwiches, steaks, fish and much more!

Pizza Hut/McPherson

2215 E. Kansas
McPherson, KS 67460
Contact: Marsha Bergmeier;
Faydra Langshaw
Phone: 620-241-5588
Website: www.pizzahut.com
Facebook: Pizza Hut

Hours: Sunday-Thursday 11:00
a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday 11:00 a.m. to
11:00 p.m.

Pizza Hut has been proud to be part of the McPherson community for the past 45 years. They operate 2 locations, one at 2215 E. Kansas that offers dine-in and carry-out services, and the other at 700 N. Main that offers delivery and carry-out services. They are able to accommodate parties of 8, 16 and 26 in their three separate party rooms. Pizza Hut can cater to any size group or event. Pizza Hut is happy to become partners with the Chamber and look forward to building a deeper relationship with our customers and local businesses.

The Well

101 N. Main, P.O. Box 802
McPherson, KS 67460
Contact: Tonya Schafer
Phone: 620-241-1840
Facebook: The Well

The Well is so much more than a coffee shop. It is a destination! With a staff of 15+, they offer excellent customer service as well as a wide variety of food items. For the morning hours, such as caramel pecan rolls, breakfast burritos, breakfast casserole, French toast casserole and a variety of bagel with your favorite flavor of creamcheese. Things don't slow down after breakfast, The Well also offers a wide variety of sandwiches, salads and soups to get you through the rest of the day.

Do you have a sweet tooth to satisfy? How about trying their daily fresh baked goods; muffins, sugar cookies, pies, cupcakes and other desserts.

Did you know they cater too? Try The Well for your next family reunion, anniversary reception, birthday party, or any get together? Think The Well for your next company lunch meetings they will prepare it fresh, bag or box it and deliver to your place of business or book your next company meeting in one of their conference rooms and you do not have to go anywhere to enjoy a good hot lunch. How cool is that?!

Next time you are driving or walking downtown Main Street, check out what is happening at The Well. Stop in, grab a cup of coffee and a sweet treat. And don't forget to shop the retail section of The Well. There are new items coming in everyday, there is bound to be something you need for that special occasion.

The Well is owned and operated by Scott and Tonya Schafer.

Welcome to McPherson!

One of the many services that the Chamber provides the community is the "Welcome to McPherson" gift bag for new residents. We invite anyone new to McPherson to stop by the Chamber office at 306 N. Main to pick up your gift bag.

The Welcome bags include discount coupons, pens, notepads, brochures, and other valuable information all packed into a reusable shopping bag. The Welcome bags are provided by Chamber members to introduce new residents to their business and share about the services and products they provide.

If you are a Chamber member and would like to provide items to be included in the Welcome bags you can drop them off at the Chamber office anytime. This is an ongoing FREE benefit to being a Chamber member.

Be the first to introduce yourself to a new resident – think about all the services and products a new resident would be seeking out -salon/barber, dentist, doctor, chiropractor, podiatrist, veterinarian, insurance agent, fitness center, pharmacy, bank, internet service, telephone, cable, real estate agent, accountant, the list goes on and on.

From the McPherson Chamber of Commerce



Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

Recently I was reading an article from Forbes titled "Why We Desperately Need To Bring Back Vocational Training In Schools" dated September, 2015. The article written by Nicholas Wyman, writes about job skills and training in the 21st century workplace. Here is the article.

Throughout most of the U.S. history, American high school students were routinely taught vocational and job ready skills along with the three Rs: reading, writing and arithmetic. Indeed readers of a certain age are likely to have fond memories of huddling over wooden workbenches learning a craft such as woodwork or maybe metal work, or any one of the hands on projects that characterized the once-ubiquitous shop class.

But in the 1950s, a different philosophy emerged: the theory that students should follow separate educational tracks according to ability. The idea that the college bound would take traditional academic courses (Latin, creative writing, science, math) and received no vocational training. Those students not headed for college would take basic academic courses, along with vocational training, or "shop".

So, what's the harm in preparing kids for college? Won't all students benefit from a high-level, four-year academic de-

gree program? As it turns out, not really. For one thing, people have a huge and diverse range of different skills and learning style. Not everyone is good at math, biology, history and other traditional subjects that characterize college-level work. Not everyone is fascinated by Greek mythology, or enamored with Victorian literature, or enraptured by classical music. Some students are mechanical; others are artistic. Some focus best in a lecture hall or classroom; still others learn best by doing, and would thrive in the studio, workshop or shop floor.

Almost 40% of students who begin four-year college programs don't complete them, which translates into a whole lot of wasted time, wasted money and burdensome student loan debt. Of those who do finish college, one-third or more will end up in jobs they could have had without a four-year degree. The BLS found that 37% of currently employed college grads are doing work for which only a high school degree is required.

It is true that earnings studies show college graduates earn more over a lifetime than high school graduates. However, these studies have some weaknesses. For example, over 53% of recent college graduates are unemployed or under-employed. And income for college graduates varies widely by major – philosophy graduates don't nearly earn what business studies graduates do. Finally, earnings studies compare college graduates to all high school graduates. But the subset of high school students who graduate with vocational training – those who go into well-paying, skilled jobs – the picture for non college graduates looks much rosier.

The manufacturing sector is

growing and modernizing, creating a wealth of challenging, well-paying, highly skilled jobs for those with the skills to do them. The demise of vocational education at the high school level has bred a skills shortage in manufacturing today, and with it a wealth of career opportunities for both under-employed college grads and high school students looking for direct pathways to interesting, lucrative careers. Many of the jobs in manufacturing are attainable through apprenticeships, on-the-job training, and vocational programs offered at community colleges. They don't require expensive, four year degrees for which many students are not suited.

And contrary to what many parents believe, students who get job specific skills in high school and choose vocational careers often go on to get additional education. The modern workplace favors those with solid, transferable skills who are open to continued learning. Most young people today will have many jobs over the course of their lifetime, and a good number will have multiple careers that require new and more sophisticated skills.

Just a few decades ago, our public education system provided ample opportunities for young people to learn about careers in manufacturing and other vocational trades. Yet, today, high schoolers hear barely a whisper about the many doors that the vocational education path can open. The "college for everyone" mentality has pushed awareness of other possible career paths to the margins. The cost to the individual's and the economy as a whole is high. If we want everyone's kids to succeed, we need to bring vocational education back to the core of high school learning.

DQ GRILL & CHILL WINNERS

Congratulations to EJ's Handyman Service! They are the winner of a DQ Cake. Thank you Roger & Karen Horn, owners of DQ Grill & Chill, 1435 N. Main, providing the monthly DQ ice cream treat.

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Gordon Mohn - USD #418 Staff: Jennifer Burch – Executive Director Debbie Hawkinson – Administrative Assistant • Alesia Stout – Program Assistant**

Class of Emerging Leaders Announced

2017 Leadership Class Making History

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce Leadership McPherson program has accepted the enrollment of 21 individuals to participate in the 2017 Leadership McPherson Class. Katy Aichele – **Home State Bank**; Lane Allison-**Mid Kansas Coop**; Shannon Brake – **McPherson Public Library**; Karleen Brown – **Elevate Tutoring Services**; Ann Marie Burk – **Hutchinson Community College/McPherson Campus**; Erykah Carr – **Nex-Tech Wireless**; Stuart Dille – **United Way of McPherson County**; Jodi Duncan – **Reach Solutions**; Lindsey Friesen – **K-State Research & Extension**; Alex Graber – **Graber’s ACE Hardware**; Marla Hawkinson – **City of McPherson Police**; Kim Kendall – **Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chtd**; Kathy Marihugh – **Nex-Tech**; Patrick Masar – **McPherson College**; Ann Parkins – **Wise & Reber LC**; Monica Rice – **McPherson College**; Tara Souder – **McPherson Hospital**; Marie Wheaton – **Ferguson Production**; Gunner Whorton – **Peoples Bank & Trust**, Beth Worden – **McPherson Hospital** and Doretta Abshire – **Circles of McPherson County**.

“This is the largest leadership class we have had, since 2009 when that class had 20 enrolled.” We are thrilled with the response and look forward to working and getting to know each and every one of the class members”, said Jennifer Burch, Executive Director of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce.

If you would like information about future leadership classes, contact the McPherson Chamber of Commerce at 620-241-3303.

2017 Agriculture Future of America Scholarships Announced

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee has been a community partner with Agriculture Future of America (AFA) since 2000 supporting 24 students with agriculture scholarships and 6 students with Leadership Conference Tuition, totaling \$71,000. AFA is a 501 (c) 3 corporation dedicated to helping support higher education and leader development of future agriculture producers and rural business leaders.

Various fund raising events have been held recently to support the AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship for McPherson County. Most recently was the American Legion Family Night, Mac County Round Up and Farm Forum. The Ag Committee appreciates the support.

The AFA Leaders and Academic Scholarship is \$4,200, consisting of a \$3,200 academic scholarship. The additional \$1,000 will sponsor the McPherson County recipient to the AFA Leaders Conference in Kansas City in November of the scholarship year. McPherson County students are eligible to apply that are pursuing agriculture-related, four-year degrees and are passionate about the future of the agriculture industry.

Two outstanding McPherson County seniors have been selected to receive scholarships this year:

■ **Andrea Vandever-Moore**, of Inman High School, plans to attend Kansas State University and major in Agricultural Education with a minor in Animal Science and Industry. Andrea has been involved in Country Cousins 4-H Club and the various club activities, Angel Tree, Inman Food Bank Drive, and Inman FFA Chapter activities.

■ **Thomas J. Smith**, of McPherson High School, plans to attend Kansas State University majoring in Agricultural Economics. Thomas has been involved with McPherson Food Bank Drive, When Pigs Fly BBQ Contest, Farm Safety Day Camp, McPherson High School Student Council, Kansas Association for Youth (KAY), JAM, FCA, YAC, and Student Class President.

Congratulations to Andrea and Thomas.

Weather Doesn’t Discourage Runners

(Marquette Tribune, Volume 132, No. 51)

The first Mac County Round Up 5K and 1 Mile was held recently in Marquette as a fund raising event for the AFA Scholarship. It was cold, windy and rainy to start, but the rain did stop in time for the participants to run or walk the route on Pioneer Trail.

Top finishers in the 5K event were: Katie Sawyer, McPherson , 1st Place female – 21:36, Holly Lindquist, Lindsborg 2nd Place female – 23:58, Becky Witte, Marquette, 3rd Place female – 24:38, Bret Ide, McPherson, 1st Place male – 21:42, Brandon Stupka, McPherson, 2nd Place male – 21:48, Matt Friesen, 3rd Place male – 22:27. Winners were awards various cuts of meats provided by **Krehbiels Specialty Meats and S & S Farms**.

chamber events

April

19 4:30 p.m. Women’s Event @ Chamber

20 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections hosted by Circles of McPherson County & MCDS @ Mattress Haven, 310 N. Main

20-21 2017 Leadership McPherson Class Retreat @ Dyck Arboretum

27 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections hosted by Sam’s Club @ Chamber, 306 N.Main

May

3 8:30 a.m. 2017 Leadership McPherson Class @ McPherson Museum, 111 E. Kansas

12:00 Leadership Board @ Chamber

4 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections @ The Well, 101 N. Main

1:00 p.m. Take the Snoozfest Out of Power Point Presentations @ HCC/McPherson Campus

8 12:00 Ambassadors @ Chamber

9 7:00 a.m. Agriculture Committee @ Perkins

12:00 Community Development @ Chamber

10 8:30 a.m. 2017 Leadership McPherson @ McPherson Museum, 111 E. Kansas

7:00 p.m. OMEGA presentations @ May Fete, Lakeside Park

11 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections hosted by All Schools Day @ McPherson Museum, 1111 E. Kansas

12 Office Closed



The McPherson Chamber of Commerce annual golf tournament, The Tartan Turkey Open is scheduled for Saturday, June 10 at Turkey Creek Golf Course. The committee has already met and are working on finalizing the plans. Entry forms and sponsorship opportunities will be sent out soon to Chamber member investors. The entry form will be available on the Chamber website www.mcphersonchamber.org. as well. We have put in a request for a “Chamber Day”, so be watching for more details as they become available. It will be a beautiful day for golf on June 10th.

Take the Snoozfest out of PowerPoint Presentations

What? Is that possible? Absolutely! Learn all about it on Thursday, May 4th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Hutchinson Community College McPherson Center. Class is limited to 20, so sign up now to reserve your spot by calling the Chamber at 241-3303. The cost of the Power Point Class is \$60 for Chamber members and \$70 for non members.

The class will cover: Planning an Effective Presentation, Slide Layout and Transitions, Modifying a Presentation, Inserting Graphics, Media, and Objects into a Presentation, Enhancing Charts and Animation.



Stuart Dille
Executive Director

UNITED WAY’S ROLE DURING A DISASTER

I recently attended a state United Way Directors meeting. One of the main topics was the role of United Way in the event of a disaster. I learned there is a staff member from the Wi-

From the United Way of McPherson County

chita United Way who is available to assist any other United Way in the state. He receives alerts 24/7 for any potential disasters, including tornado watches. This way, he is ready to help immediately. During a disaster, volunteers are only truly effective if they are organized. Volunteers need to be assigned wristbands because, unfortunately, with disasters also comes looting. He most recently was in Hutchinson to help or-

ganize volunteers for cleanup, water delivery and other tasks, following the wildfires. The Wichita office raised over \$50,000 to help the victims of the fires and every dime was given to those effected. I will soon obtain my own emergency credentials so that I will be able to access crisis centers and help as much as possible, in the event of a disaster or emergency. Do YOU have plan in case of a crisis?



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