

November 2011

# 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

### Quickbooks Tips & Tricks Seminar

Be sure to call and reserve your spot for a workshop to learn Quickbooks "Tips and Tricks" presented by Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd. The workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at The Well. The cost is \$35.00 per person and reservations must be received by Monday, November 7 at noon by calling the Chamber at 241-3303. Light refreshments will be served.

### Veteran's Day

The American Legion and the McPherson Chamber of Commerce BAM! (Business And Membership) Committee have partnered again to honor those who have served our country. This year special recognition for all military personnel who have served during the Vietnam War from 1962-1975 will take place, celebrating 36 years of the end of the war.

The parade will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the American Legion, followed by a chili lunch served by the BAM! Committee at 11:00 - Park Department Building (previously the Armory) located at Mulberry & W. First Street.

Keynote speaker is retired lieutenant colonel Dr. John Bredfeldt.

### Chamber Participation

#### It's About Time!

Did you realize you can derive significant benefits from your McPherson Chamber of Commerce membership in little or no time?

In less than one hour you can . . . . .

Attend a Chamber Weekly Coffee, network and get updated on current Chamber and member events.

Join a Chamber committee, meet once a month. There is a variety of different committees that focus on interests of business & community.

Attend a ribbon cutting ceremony to support your fellow business peers in their celebration.

Stop by a Business After Hours, a great networking opportunity to make some new business contacts.

Your benefits or return on investment is related to what you do to get the most out of your membership and all of the opportunities provided by the Chamber.

### Winterization Kits Available

The Chamber has received a limited number of Winterization kits provided by Community Action, Topeka. The kits are available to income-eligible households at no cost and contains plastic for windows, caulking, and weather stripping.

The kits are available on first come first serve basis and can be picked up at the Chamber office located at 306 N. Main - one kit per household.

## Welcome to the Chamber!

**YUKI FORTNER**  
315 Crestview Avenue  
McPherson, Ks 67460

Phone: 620/242-1112  
Fax: 620/504-6379

Website:  
yfortner.weichertcompasspoint.com

Traveling to several states gave Yuki Fortner a natural interest in finding the "right" home for herself and led her to an interest in becoming a real estate agent. Yuki grew up in Southern California, married a man from New York, and then they found their way to other places, leading them to settle in McPherson, Kansas where husband Bryan is an inspector for NCRA.

After a successful career in the medical field, she followed a natural love for real estate and earned her license in July of 2008. This business allows her the freedom to schedule her time to be more involved with her son, daughter and taking care of her mother, meet new people and build a new career in Real Estate. So far, she has concentrated on residential and small rural property sales.

Yuki and her family have recently moved to McPherson, she and her husband are both skeet shooter, their son is learning in the 4-H program. Yuki is also involved in Girl Scouts with their daughter. Yuki is also very interested in finding a new committee to be a part of; community involvement is a big priority for her busy family.

She served her past community in Augusta by being: a Girl Scout leader, Downtown Augusta Inc. Board member, and Chair of Promotions, Active member of

the Augusta First Baptist Church and member of the Grasshopper Festival committee.

She has pursued further education at Butler Community College and Hutchinson Community College getting her degree in 2005.

Yuki has a great work ethic; she believes in hard work, honesty, community and, listening. She always puts the need of her customer's first and she never forgets that the customer is the boss. She has built her business around treating people the right way!

### MCPHERSON AREA HUMAN RESOURCES PROFESSIONALS

2107 Industrial Dr.  
McPherson, KS 67460  
www.ksshrm.org  
Contacts: Lana Wilson 620-241-2200  
ext. 1108, Terri Ridge and Sherrie Dirks

MAHRP is the McPherson Area Human Resource Professional group based in McPherson, Kansas. They are a group of Human Resource professionals who meet once a month to network with others in their profession for education and networking. They are a member of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). The Society for Human Resource Management is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. Founded in 1948, the Society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession. SHRM provides research, best practices, advocacy, conferences, publications, education, certification and more.

### Kansas Department of Commerce - Rural Development

#### Access to Capital - Financial Assistance for Small Businesses

#### State Small Business Credit Initiative

The Kansas Capital Multiplier and Venture Funds are programs that provide matching funds through a partner network to eligible businesses in communities across Kansas. Funding is provided through the United

States Treasury via the State Small Business Credit Initiative.

#### Kansas Capital Multiplier Loan Fund

Under the Kansas Capital Multiplier Loan Fund, businesses can apply for matching loans up to nine percent of the private capital invested. Private capital invested includes the amount of the loans provided by financial institutions, certified development companies and other sources of private lending. Private capital also includes the entrepreneurs' investment and funds provided by angel investors or an angel investor groups. The minimum loan from the Kansas Cap-

ital Multiplier Fund is \$25,000, with a maximum loan of \$750,000.

#### Kansas Capital Multiplier Venture Fund

Under the Kansas Capital Multiplier Venture Fund, businesses can apply for matching equity up to 9% of the private equity invested. Private equity invested includes funds invested by private equity firms and angel investors. Businesses eligible include technology and biosciences companies working with a state entrepreneurial center, University Center of Excellence and/or the Kansas Bioscience Authority (KBA).

Rural businesses or businesses in distressed areas of urban communities that meet critical community needs; are growth businesses with local angel investors; or are larger businesses with less than 500 employees that have local angel investors and significant private equity investment may also qualify. The minimum equity investment contribution from the Kansas Capital Multiplier Venture Fund is \$25,000, with a maximum equity investment contribution of \$250,000.

For more information about applying for the Kansas Capital Multiplier Loan or Venture Funds, visit Network Kansas.

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# 2011 - 2012 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

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 Anna Ruxlow, McPherson College, Penny Selzer, Farmers State Bank, Troy Short, Hospira, Corey Hoover, Midway Motors  
 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 Nov./Dec. 2011

November	10 9:30 a.m.	24	Chamber
12:00 Ambassadors @ Chamber 4:00 p.m. YP Mac @ Chamber	Chamber Coffee @ Earcare Hearing Aid Center, 320 S. Main	24 Thanksgiving 25 Holiday	
2 12:00 Leadership Board of Trustees @ Chamber	11:30 a.m. YP Mac Lunch & Learn @ The Well, Guest Speaker Marcy Penner of the Kansas Sampler Foundation	December	
3 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee & Ribbon Cutting for Assured Occupational Solutions, 1401 S. Highway 81 Bypass (King Enterprise Group)	11 11:00 a.m. Veterans Day lunch at Park Department	1 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by McPherson Hospital Volunteers @ the McPherson Hospital	
5 Christmas Open House in McPherson	12:00 Leadership Board @ MCCCF @ Extension Office	6 12:00 Chamber 4:00 p.m. YPMAC @ Chamber	
6 Christmas Open House in McPherson	15 6:30 p.m. McPherson County Women of Distinction Reception @ Opera House	7 12:00 Leadership Board @ Chamber	
8 7:00 a.m. Ag Committee @ Perkins 8:00-10:00 a.m. Quickbooks Tips & Tricks Seminar @ The Well 12:00 Community Development @ Chamber	16 4:00 p.m. Women's Event @ Chamber 17 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee @ the McPherson Healthcare Foundation Celebrating 25 years 11:30 a.m. Chamber Board @	8 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by Kansas Secured Title 5:30 p.m. YP Mac Holiday Social at Amics 13 7:00 a.m. Ag Committee @ Perkins 12 Community Development @ Chamber 15 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by TBA 23 Chamber office hours 8:00 to 12:00 noon 26 Chamber office closed 29 Chamber Coffee hosted by	

### McPherson Chamber of Commerce offers

## McPherson County Entrepreneurship Community Loan Program

The McPherson County E-Community loan program provides low or zero interest loans to anyone wishing to start, purchase or expand a business in McPherson County. The loans are to be used in conjunction with banks, private investment, and Network Kansas partners as a "final piece" to complete the puzzle or "fill the gap" of financing a business start up or expansion.

Detailed information and an application is available at [www.mcphersonchamber.org](http://www.mcphersonchamber.org) or stop by the Chamber office at 306 N. Main or call 620/241-3303. The McPherson Chamber of Commerce wants to be your partner in business.

## This Month's DQ Winner

Congratulations to everyone at Computer Solutions, Inc. at 121 West Marlin, Suite 100—winners of the DQ cake drawing. Thank you Roger & Karen for providing this totally awesome treat for members of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce.



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## McPherson Main Street Report:

We hit the street running with Burnin' Down Main on October 1st with one of our largest cost-conscious groups and a GREAT crowd. This is open to anyone, business or individual, member or not, and we hope it will continue to grow. Thank you to all who made it a success and to all of our craft and pumpkin sponsors and volunteers. October 27th will find the Downtown full of little ghouls and goblins as the children wander up and down the street for "Trick or Treat Main Street" from 5:30-7:30 p.m., rain or shine, sidewalk only. Be sure to watch out for traffic as you visit all the downtown businesses and then head over to the Community Building for the annual Beta Sigma Phi Halloween Carnival from 6-9pm.

Mint-Main is scheduled for December 3rd and we will need about 100+ volunteers to pull this off! For those of you not "in-the-know" this is a special shopping experience for area children where they bring their shopping list and "elves" help them purchase gifts for Mom, Dad, Grandma, etc. We provide the elves, free gift wrapping, crafts, cookies, and Santa is there to see if you've been naughty or nice. If you or your organization would like to volunteer, please let me know. This is a really fun activity and the 3 hours fly by!

Once again Main Street will be working with the Chamber of Commerce and the Convention and Visitors Bureau to put together a fantastic Holiday Promotion consisting of a \$10,000 co-op advertising package, FREE movies at the Opera House, a city-wide Christmas Light Contest, Trolley Christmas Light Tours, multiple opportunities to have Cookies with Santa in your business, Candy Cane Cash and a great Holiday Open House Weekend. Letters went out to all local Main Street and Chamber members and the deadline to participate is October 25th. If you are a member of Main Street or the Chamber and did not receive a letter, and are interested in participating and/or sponsoring an event, please let me know.

That will wrap it up for today. If you have any questions about any of these upcoming events, please call me at 620-241-7430, e-mail me at [mainstreet@mcphersonks.org](mailto:mainstreet@mcphersonks.org) or stop by my office at 306 N. Main!

**Ann Engel**  
 Main Street  
 Executive Director

## From The United Way

From the McPherson County United Way: The 2011 United Way Campaign continues to work towards our goal of \$215,000. Donations received from this year's Campaign will help fund programs that help provide basic needs, prepare for life, rebuild lives and build self-reliance.

We have been very fortunate to have received generous donations from individuals, businesses, and industries, as well as through Employee Campaigns throughout McPherson County. We truly appreciate the support given by so many. However, we have not yet reached our goal.

From mid-year reports submitted by just a few funded programs, the following results show:

**Meals on Wheels** – At the end of July 2,649 meals were served that needed to be subsidized with local funds. This is 541 more meals than was estimated. By the end of July, 9,310 meals were served to 30 different individuals. While more meals have been served than had been anticipated, the amount of contributions to pay for these meals by the clients has not grown at the same pace.

**American Red Cross Disaster Services** – During the first six months of 2011, Disaster Services volunteers provided direct emergency assistance to 16 people who were victims of house fires; provided canteen services for first responders on the scene of 7 fires and one hazmat spill; supported 22 disaster workers; conducted one large shelter training and exercise; and provided community disaster education to 1,035 people.

**McPherson County Council on Aging/Public Transportation** – The first six months of 2011, 11,068 one-way riders were provided in McPherson County. McPherson County averages over 92 rides per operational day.

**Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland** – McPherson County currently has 27 troops, with 229 Girl members and 52 registered adults. Through community service activities such as Clean-Up day at Kanopolis Lake, planting flowers at the Methodist Church, providing keep-up at the community garden and more, our girls are connecting with the community around them and giving back. This piece of the Girl Scouts Leadership Experience allows girls to discover needs in their communities, connect on a level where they feel personally invested in the community they serve and they then take action to better the world around them.

These are just a few of the examples of measurable outcomes to show your donations to United Way DO make a difference in McPherson County. If you would still like to make a donation to our 2011 Campaign, it's not too late! Donations can be sent to P.O. Box 55, McPherson, or dropped off at 306 North Main. You can also donate on our website – [www.unitedwaymcpherson.org](http://www.unitedwaymcpherson.org)

**Brenda Sales, Director**

## From Convention & Visitors Bureau

**A Great Time of Year**  
 As I write this it is early October and we've just had our first round of crisp autumn weather. The kids have picked out their pumpkins, I've planted mums in the flower pot on the front porch. The Bulbups are off to a great start in football. It's time to dust off the old Halloween costumes and see what we can reuse this year. My kids are starting to levitate toward the scarier stuff so this may be the year to toss that padded dinosaur costume out.

I love this time of year because it's busy but not hectic. The weather is still warm, but not stifling. I wish we could put October on continual loop sometimes. As far as tourism goes, this time of year is golden. Conventions and trade shows are hopping. There are enough festivals and activities going on to keep even the picky traveler entertained. Music, crafts, art, ethnic food fests, cultural celebrations all seem to cluster in the fall.

At the CVB, we just published our biennial "Official Community Guide" with the Chamber of Commerce and McPherson Main Street. The magazines are gorgeous thanks to great photographers, designers and writers who put out a tremendous effort to showcase McPherson. Big thanks to the folks at McPherson Business Solutions for all of their hard work. The annual calendar is done too. I can't say it didn't come off without a hitch, but there are some great photos in there from our "What's Your McPherson?" annual photo contest. Thank you to all the advertisers in both pieces. Stop by 306 N. Main St. to get a copy of either publication. I'll be sad to see the McPherson Museum close its doors at the Vaniman House. My youngest son's Boy Scout Troop just went on a scavenger hunt through all three stories of the museum. It's an end of an era but there are great things planned for the new museum. I can't wait to see its progress.

It's time to turn our thoughts to the holidays for just a moment. This will be the fourth year that we will offer a trolley tour of holiday lights. There will be three tours a night – 6, 7 and 8 p.m. – Dec. 8, 15, 17 and 22 beginning from the McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main St. All public tour tickets will be available for purchase beginning Nov. 1 at the McPherson Convention and Visitors Bureau, 306 N. Main St. for just \$5 a ticket. Have a big group coming to town for the holidays? We can pick you up and drop you off right at your front door. Call Pam, Cindy or I at 620/241-3540 to reserve a time. Look for details on the light contest to come.

**Ann Hassler**  
 Director

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