

The Chamber Business Journal

April 2019

Doing what most people think just happens!

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



Save the Date! Chamber Classic “Laughs on the Links” Golf Tournament

Mark your calendar for Friday, June 7th at Turkey Creek Golf Course beginning at 11:30 with team check in and a Taco Bar Lunch sponsored by REACH Solutions. Tee off at 1:00 p.m. that will lead your 4 person scramble to a very adventurous, untraditional, enormously fun, lots of surprises and the most creative afternoon of 18 holes of golf you have attempted to play. Following the completed 18 holes, golfers will feast on hot and freshly prepared Papa Murphys Pizza right on the course during the awards presentation of the tournament. If you enjoy golfing with your co-workers, customers or groups of friends, you will have a blast in the “Laughs on the Links”.

The Chamber Golf Committee and Board re-created the annual Chamber golf tournament to expand the fun to all our members. Detailed information will be going out soon.

McPherson County: A Great Leadership Resource

Recently a group met with representatives from the Kansas Leadership Center in Wichita. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a possible venture of alumni from the McPherson Chamber of Commerce Leadership McPherson program and individuals who have participated with the Kansas Leadership Center training. It was discovered that since 1982 there have been over 300 people who have graduated from the Leadership McPherson Program and nearly 200 McPherson County residents who have trained at the Kansas Leadership Center. That is an incredible resource of skills that could be put to use in helping groups and businesses who are struggling with challenges. The thought is by pooling interested individuals from both programs we can work collaboratively on difficult challenges. Sometimes outside eyes see clearer than what internal eyes are too close to see.

There is a great opportunity for graduates of Leadership McPherson and the Kansas Leadership Center to stay engaged in leadership and to put into action what they have learned. Stay tuned for updates of the proposal.

Coalition of Local Chambers Presents 2019 Policy Priorities

Members of the Chamber Coalition representing the state wide Coalition presented the 2019 Policy Priorities to legislators on February 28. Chamber organizations that have joined together to present position of statements for small and large Kansas businesses are Abilene, Emporia, Gardner Edgerton, Greater Kansas City, Great Topeka, Hutchinson, Lawrence, Liberal, Manhattan, McPherson, Northeast Johnson County, Olathe, Ottawa, Overland Park, Pittsburg, Salina, Shawnee, Spring Hill and Wichita.

2nd and 3rd 2019 Policy Priorities

Transportation

The Coalition recognizes the importance of a quality, well-maintained highway system and urges the Legislature to ensure that dedicated transportation funding streams are used only for the transportation program. The Coalition supports the work of the Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force and urges the Legislature to develop an adequately-funded comprehensive state transportation program that is based on input the Task Force received from stakeholders across the state. The Coalition supports the funding and completion of the remaining infrastructure projects outlined by T-WORKS. The Coalition believes that analysis of future infrastructure projects should consider economic impact as an important factor and give appropriate consideration to public-private partnerships and the input of local governments.

Economic Development

To facilitate and enhance economic development and job growth throughout the state, the Coalition strongly encourages the creation of a comprehensive and coordinated statewide economic development plan. The development and execution of a comprehensive, statewide plan should draw on the experience of local economic development professionals throughout the state; enhance effectiveness of programs and incentives; maximize return on investment and create a long-term vision for economic development in Kansas.

In addition to the creation of a comprehensive plan, the Coalition also supports:

- Preservation of existing programs and other resources including PEAK, HPIP and the STAR Bond program
- Reaffirming the Department of Commerce as the lead state agency for economic development initiatives of the state level
- Staffing the Department of Commerce with the professionals needed to compete globally

From the McPherson Chamber of Commerce



Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

I was reading an article recently about meeting the needs of the Solopreneur. My first thought was “what is a Solopreneur?” Unfortunately, it is one of the newest “buzz” words that you can add to your vocabulary. A solopreneur can have any sort of job title:

freelancer, consultant CEO, You Tuber, internet marketing, etc. They come in all sorts of shapes and sizes across all industries. Some are in multi-level marketing with affiliations to a larger company while others start their business from scratch. But what they all have in common is a desire to work for themselves to have the freedom to design their own lives on their own schedules and terms. Most of them, at least initially, will start out virtually before they build a brick and mortar location (if they ever do). With more than 2.7 million non-employer firms in the U.S., run solely by owners, this is a trend you can’t ignore. If you think they’re all just homebodies sitting in their basements

selling thing on e-bay, you’re wrong. According to the U.S. Census Bureau (2015), 35,584 of those solopreneurs were bringing in anywhere from \$1 million to \$2.49 million a year. Not too shabby!

Many also make the decision not to grow into a full-fledge business with staff. They prefer to keep it agile and embrace the solo employee approach and not take on a managerial role. If they feel the need to employ others, they often turn to virtual assistants and other solopreneurs to help out in their area of expertise. A solopreneur will work 80 hours a week for themselves to avoid working 40 hours a week for someone else.

DQ GRILL & CHILL WINNERS

Congratulations to Omni21, 121 W. Marlin, Suite 302. They are the winner of a DQ Cake. Thank you Roger & Karen Horn, owners of DQ Grill & Chill, 1435 N. Main for providing the monthly DQ ice cream treat.

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620241-3553
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OMEGA

**Outstanding
McPherson
Eighth Grade Award**



Awesomeness Recognized with OMEGA Award

Awesomeness- a quality that inspires awe! Whose awesomeness have you noticed helping their peers overcome struggles or volunteering their time and talents to help others? Maybe it's the 8th grader taking the initiative to make positive changes, or the role model who is leading by example. Who is courageously overcoming personal challenges, yet making an impact on those around them? We want to know whose attitude and kindness makes someone's day a little brighter.

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce established the Outstanding McPherson Eighth Grade Award (OMEGA) to recognize McPherson County 8th graders for making a difference by their attitude and actions, their leadership qualities and service to their community. This special OMEGA Award recognition will take place on Wednesday, May 8th, during May Fete activities.

Please take the opportunity to nominate an eighth grader in McPherson County for this prestigious award. Nomination forms can be found at www.mcphersonchamber.org or picked up at the McPherson Chamber of Commerce, 306 N. Main. Deadline is April 4th.

From Central Kansas SHRM Affiliates of the Society for Human Resource Management

EEO-1 Reporting Period (March 18 - May 31, 2019)

The U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) will officially open the 2018 EEO-1 survey on March 18, 2019. The deadline to submit the EEO-1 data is May 31, 2019. Visit the EEO-1 website for general information on the opening of the 2018 EEO-1 survey.

House Bill No. 2186

This bill has been introduced to the Kansas State Legislature to grant employees who earn sick leave the right to use it to care for their family members. The bill is in hearing and no resolution has been made at this time.

Grab a Buddy!

Yee Haw! It's Time for Mac County Roundup

The Agriculture Committee of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce is working on the plans for the 2019 Mac County Roundup 5K/1 mile which will be held in Canton, Kansas on Saturday, April 20, 2019. If you would like a registration when they become available – email the Chamber office at chamber@mcphersonks.org or be watching our facebook page.

Proceeds from the Mac County Round Up go to fund the AFA Scholarship Fund.

Collaborative thinking has been a key component in the Chamber's leadership program and the success of the McPherson community. Collaboration bridges gaps which allows the focus to be on ideas and opinions to accomplish the goal.




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chamber events

March

- 20 Women's Event Committee @ Chamber Office, 306 N. Main
- 4:30 p.m. Chamber Classic Golf Meeting @ Chamber Office, 306 N. Main
- 21 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections & Ribbon Cutting for Kansas Secured Title, 209 E. Kansas
- 28 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections @ the Chamber, 306 N. Main hosted by Pleasant View Home
- 11:30 a.m. Chamber Board @ Chamber Office, 306 N. Main
- 30 9:00 a.m. 2019 Legislative Update at The Well, 101 N. Main

April

- 2 8:30 a.m. 2019 Leadership McPherson Class @ Chamber
- 3 12:00 noon Leadership Board @ Chamber
- 4 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections - TBD
- 11 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections - TBD
- 18 9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections @ Stanion Wholesale Electric, 811 N. Hickory
- 22 8:30 a.m. 2019 Leadership McPherson Class @ Chamber
- 23 11:30 a.m. Leadership McPherson Lunch & Learn @ Central Christian College, 1200 S. Main

Visit With Your Legislators

If you would like to hear firsthand about what is going on in Topeka, join us on Saturday, March 30 at 9:00 a.m. You are invited to join us at The Well, 101 N. Main to enjoy a nice hot cup of coffee and get the scoop on the legislative happenings in Topeka. Legislators attending will be Senator Rick Wilborn, Representative Les Mason and Representative Stephen Owens will be present to update and answer questions.



ROB MACKEY
Executive Director

Your Smiling Face Can Make a Difference

Good nutrition and a long, healthy life go hand in hand. That's what makes Meals on Wheels so important in McPherson.

Each day, volunteers deliver hot, well-balanced meals to the home-bound. This allows the elderly and infirm to stay in their homes, living independently. Meals on Wheels has been serving the City of McPherson for 47 years. It not only helps the recipients, but it is a great comfort to their families who know that someone is checking in on them each day.

We are blessed to have the dedication of Connie Grennen, who will celebrate 18 years as McPherson's Meals on

From the United Way of McPherson County

Wheels Director on May 1st. She said it's a cause that she "truly believes in, it's a passion." She said Meals on Wheels is "more beneficial than most people realize." Because of its relationship with McPherson Hospital, Meals on Wheels can provide meals up to 7 days a week, which is unusual for Meals on Wheels programs, and those meals can be "diet specific for a person's medical needs."

United Way has been a long-time partner with Meals on Wheels. Your donations help people who cannot afford the full price of the meals.

Volunteers have been critical to making Meals on Wheels such a reliable part of the community. The late June Anderson, who passed last August at age 93, volunteered as a Meals on Wheels driver for more than 45 years. In 2016, she told United Way volunteer Kipp Cordell that she was taken aback at times at the conditions in which some of our residents

live. "You see things that you don't even realize the way people are living in our town," she said. "Although we don't think we have a lot of that stuff, but we do."

June was once asked if she really enjoyed volunteering, she replied, "I don't think I'd be doing it this long if I didn't." June is gone now, but Meals on Wheels continues its excellent service with many other long-time volunteers and new ones are welcome. The meals are usually delivered in under an hour at mid-day. You are asked to commit to one day of the week for two months. You then are off for two months. Grennen said this helps avoid burnout.

And it's a chance to make a difference. Said current Meals on Wheels volunteer Ann Engel, "You may be the only smiling face that person sees that day."

To volunteer, call Meals on Wheels at 620-241-5238



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