The Chamber Business Journal

August 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

Congratulations & Welcome New Member

KB's Barber Shop
KB's Barber Shop
1011 W. Kansas, McPherson, KS 67460
Contact: Kris Burge Phone: 620-798-1156
Facebook: KB's Barber Shop

Welcome McPherson's newest barber shop, **KB's Barber Shop**, located at 1011 W. Kansas Ave. Kris Burge, owner of **KB's Barber Shop** has been a barber for 10 years. He grew up in Little River Kansas and now lives in Inman. He Is married with 3 children. **KB's Barber Shop** is open from 7AM-5pm Tuesday-Friday and 7AM-1:00 PM Saturdays. Services include haircuts, buzz cuts, faded buzz cuts, edge up, beard cut, beard buzz and a beard edge! Walk-ins are welcome or call 620-798-1158 today to schedule an appointment. Proudly supporting our Military, **KB's Barber Shop** gives a discount to Military, First Responders and wise men (those 62 and older).

McPherson County Gearing Up for Manufacturing Month

Manufacturing Day is a celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers. Although Manufacturing Day officially occurs on the first Friday in October, the month of October has been declared Manufacturing Month in McPherson County. The Bradbury Co., Inc. would like to invite you to tour their manufacturing plant here in Moundridge to showcase the rewarding, highly skilled jobs for individuals available in manufacturing and help celebrate our 60th Anniversary! Students and Community Members of all ages are welcome to participate in our open house. Manufacturers across the nation, like Bradbury, will be participating in Manufacturing Day as sponsors, hosting open houses, public tours, career workshops and other events.

The Bradbury Co., Inc. is a family owned, global company that designs and builds high-quality, productivity-enhancing metal processing equipment for customers around the world. With our world headquarters in Moundridge since 1959, we employ over 350 Kansans and almost 600 staff worldwide. Manufacturing Day will draw greater attention to the outstanding opportunities that a career in manufacturing can provide and promote the pursuit of skills that will lead to a long-term career that offers security and growth for qualified candidates.

We will be hosting an open house on Thursday, October 3rd from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm at our Moundridge facility. Employees will be available to provide guided tours every 30 minutes starting at the top and bottom of each hour and refreshments will be provided. Additionally, a Manufacturing Career Exploration Center will be held for all to visit to learn more about the career opportunities manufacturing has to offer and engage with Bradbury's manufacturing professionals. Technical College Representatives will also be on site to provide information about post-secondary education options related to manufacturing. Feel free to come and go anytime from 2:00 to 6:00 pm.

We sincerely hope you will accept our invitation to attend. Hopefully, by opening up shop floors around the country, we will be able to show modern manufacturing for what it is—a sleek, technology-driven industry that offers secure, good-paying jobs.

If anyone would like to bring a prearranged group (class, troop, 4H group) through our plant on October 3rd please let us know as soon as possible so that we can schedule some special time for you. We are open to scheduling tours in the morning if that works best with your schedule. Feel free to call or e-mail Shonda Fast directly at (620) 345-4389 or shofas@bradburyco.com if you have any questions.

Information submitted by The Bradbury Co.

Be watching for more information and opportunities from our McPherson County manufactures and industries.

From the McPherson Chamber

Jennifer Burch
Executive Director

Membership Means Having an Impact on Your Community

The McPherson Chamber appreciates the loyalty and support of our members. Investing in the efforts of the Chamber, also impacts our community. Our members are partners in creating a healthy business climate and vibrant community that we are all proud to call home. Working together toward a positive culture, the McPherson Chamber continues to work diligently, building on the strong foundation for growth in our community and is committed to filling the future with stories of success.

Your McPherson Chamber continues to work on these impactful programs and offer our members these benefits and more:

✓ **Business Growth**- 16 Chamber Ribbon Cuttings were held in the 2018/2019 fiscal year to celebrate new businesses, new expansions and new locations for our members. The Chamber continues to connect investors to available locations and assists with business start-ups and expansions though the McPherson County E-Loan program.

✓ **Marketing our Members** through our website www.mcphersonchamber.org, Chamber weekly e-mails, Experience McPherson TV advertising, printed monthly Chamber Journal, Facebook posts and shares, Welcome to McPherson Gift Bags, Chamber-Checks, and much more.

✓ **Educational Growth & Professional Development**- at Chamber Academy Classes, Lunch & Learns, and various speakers and seminars, catered to the needs of our members.

✓ **Providing Business Connections**- Since January, we've had 32 Chamber Connections with a total of 1302 attendees! That =1302 opportunities to build business relationships. And did we mention the social media, email and website exposure for our hosts?

✓ **Business Referral Service**-We have hundreds of people who walk in, call, email and view our website daily.

✓ **Community Involvement**- Connecting the community with events for everyone means gathering, organizing and posting an average of 155 events every month to the on-line calendar www.mcphersonks.org, submitting to newspapers and emailing to community hot spots.

✓ **Investing in Youth**- Providing Agriculture Future of America financial scholarships and leadership conference tuition to local youth since 2000. Hosting the second annual McPherson Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge.

✓ **Communicating Your News**- 1200+ recipients receive the weekly Chamber e-newsletter so our members have the potential to make 62,4000 impressions every year.

✓ **Leadership Development**- The Leadership McPherson Class facilitated by the Chamber has graduated 460 community leaders since 1982, developed 34 youth projects and continues to develop effective leaders who impact the community.

✓ **Community Outreach**- Keeping a pulse on the community means representing our Chamber members at hundreds of community meetings, Chamber committee meetings and events each year.

DQ GRILL & CHILL WINNERS

Congratulations to Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chtd., 200 S. Main. They are the winners of the DQ Cake. Thank you Roger and Karen Horn, owners of DQ Grill & Chill, 1435 N. Main, McPherson for providing the monthly DQ ice cream treat.

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2018 - 2012 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

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Treasurer - Justin Kaufman, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd LLC • Past President - Brad Mears, Kansas Municipal Utilities

Board of Directors: Brad Bengtson, Home State Bank • Janey Anderson, A5 Western • Gordon Mohn, USD #418

Chuck Singleton, Central States Marketing & Mfg • Kelly Pitts, PrairieLand Partners

chamber events

August

22 9:30 a.m. • Chamber Connections hosted by Kairos Wholesale, 1337 W. Kansas
11:30 • Chamber Board meeting @ Chamber office, 306 N. Main

29 9:30 a.m. • Chamber Connections hosted by First Mennonite Church, 1161 E. Ave. A

September

2 Labor Day • Chamber office closed

4 12:00 • Leadership Board of Trustees meeting @ Chamber office, 306 N. Main

5 9:30 a.m. • Chamber Connections hosted by United Way of McPherson County @ McPherson Museum, 1111 E. Kansas Ave.

11 7:00 a.m.• Ag Committee Mtg @ The Well, 101 N. Main

12 9:30• Chamber Connections TBA

18 10:00 a.m. • Ribbon Cutting for McPherson Hospital's, Physical & Occupational Therapy & Speech Therapy new location, 1000 Hospital Dr. Building #4 (N. side of main parking lot)

19 9:30 a.m. • Chamber Connections TBA

25 7:00 p.m. • McPherson City Commission Candidate Forum @ the American Legion Post 24, 401 N. Main

26 11:30 • Chamber Board meeting @ Chamber office, 306 N. Main

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE McPHERSON

Informed Voting Choices Start with Candidate Forums

The McPherson Chamber is made up of members who live and work in the area. Our members and area citizens want to know their elected officials and those seeking office. They want to know where they stand on issues that affect us all. The McPherson Chamber is not a political action committee, nor does it endorse candidates in elections. We host candidate forums as a service, to allow candidates seeking public office to express their views openly so community members can understand their positions and make informed voting choices. The forums are free and open to the public.

Please join us as the McPherson Chamber B.A.M. (Business and Membership) Committee hosts the USD #418 School Board Candidate Forum on Wednesday, October 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the American Legion Post #24, 401 N. Main. Candidates are: Alan L. Burghart, Jeffrey P. Butler, Emily Greer, Jeff L. Johnson, Brian Meek, Ann M.E. Parkins, Dale Patrick, Lara Vanderhoof, and Robin K. Werth

The McPherson City Commission Candidate Forum will be held on Wednesday, September 25th at 7:00 p.m. at the American Legion Post #24, 401 N. Main. Running for Streets & Utilities Commissioner are: Anne Hassler Heidel, Richard E. Keim and Larry E. Wiens. Running for Lands & Facilities Commissioner are: Gary Mehl and Michael Yates.

"Experience McPherson" TV Ads are Top Notch!

Exciting news for McPherson Main Street and the Chamber of Commerce on our KAKE-TV "Experience McPherson" advertising! The KAB (Kansas Association of Broadcasters) not only named KAKE-TV as the 2019 Large Market Station of the Year, but they received 9 FIRST-PLACE awards, INCLUDING THE COMMERCIAL SERIES: EXPERIENCE MCPHERSON for non-metro (excludes Wichita, Topeka and KC) with Safiya Woodard (photographer). We (Main Street & Chamber) started offering this advertising option to our members in February of 2016, and have been consistently running spots year-round ever since, with an average of 21 featured businesses in each 3-month segment. The judging for the awards is done by out-of-state judges with no connection to the Kansas businesses. Thank you to all of the businesses that have participated in these ads over the years and to our KAKE TV reps for helping us keep this "now award winning" program going!

2019 Leadership McPherson Class

Using Their Skills to Help with Youth Leadership Camp

Leadership McPherson is a professional program of the McPherson Chamber of Commerce to develop effective leaders, open minds to perspectives that surround issues facing our community and enable participants to become more visionary leaders. It motivates graduates to apply their new skills to move organizations and businesses forward.

Each year the Leadership McPherson Class champions a project to benefit the youth in the McPherson County area. The 2019 Class took the opportunity to be a part of a new Leadership Camp after being approached by Kari Moddelmog, Counselor at Eisenhower Elementary. The camp was put on by STUCO organizations in various McPherson schools and the 2019 Leadership McPherson Class facilitated the first day. Three different leadership areas were addressed: Teamwork/Communication, Finance, and Healthy Eating/Lifestyles. To gain a better understanding of each of these areas, students participated in activities, requiring them to use good communication skills and wise choices.

The "Spider Web" activity, consisted of a "spider web" like course with low ropes that the students had to maneuver through. The desired outcome was to get the whole team across to the other side of the web. The challenge was that once a certain hole in the spider web was used by one team member, it could no longer be used. Good communication and strategies allowed them to get their whole team safely across to the other side!

The "Ants on a Log" activity had the students lining up tallest to shortest on a 4x4 board. The challenge presented to them was to rearrange themselves shortest to tallest, without stepping off the board. If someone stepped off the board, they had to start over. Again, good communication and strategizing allowed them to achieve their goal.

During the Healthy Eating/Lifestyles activity the group got to make a healthy snack and smoothie, as well as taking home some healthy recipes to try. The students found that eating healthy is not really as bad as they thought. They discovered that healthy eating caused them to have more energy and focus, and that choosing a healthy lifestyle would affect their life.

Another activity that addressed Teamwork/Communication was done in cooperation with the McPherson Fire Department and McPherson Police Department. The challenge was for the students, as a group, to build a pulley system strong enough to move a police car or a fire truck. Each group was successful in completing the task and were able to move one of the vehicles!

The Leadership Class project was successful. The students worked well together through good communication and strategizing, were engaged throughout the morning, and really enjoyed the activities!

Kudos to the 2019 Leadership McPherson Class: Lindsey Godfrey – McPherson College; Mike Golden – McPherson Police Department; Derick Goodson – Chris Goodson Appraisal Service; Mervyn John – Viega; Sue Johnson – MCDS & Fly Away Farms; Rachel Lesslie – MCDS; Kristin Long – Mt. Hope Sanctuary; Bo Moddelmog – City of McPherson; Daniel Ryan – Ellene McKean & Associates; Shandi Schropp-MCDS; Jamie Simpson – Edward Jones (Aaron Mayfield) and TJ Wyssmann – McPherson Fire Department.

From the United Way of McPherson County

ROB MACKEY
Executive Director

READY TO READ WITH DOLLY!

United Way is excited to launch the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for the children and families of McPherson County! We are nearing the time when children can be enrolled. Free books come to the child's house once a month. Children who live in McPherson County are eligible from the time they are born, and the books end with a child's 5th birthday. The books are age-appropriate, so as a child grows, they receive books with new words and concepts. The first book from the Imagination Library for all children is "The Little Engine That Could." We know that reading to children helps them become readers. As my wife, a former teacher said, "Life is so much easier for early readers." She saw the difference in students who knew how to read entering kindergarten. Research shows that if a child is reading at grade level by 3rd or 4th grade, their chances of graduating from high school are much greater.

So let's talk about how this program works.

Dolly Parton has paid for the infrastructure to be set up for managing the book distribution in her home state of Tennessee. All of the books are mailed from there. When a family enrolls a child, the books don't come right away. It takes about 8-10 weeks to get a child on the list and into the distribution network.

The actual books are paid for by us – the people who live and work here. United Way is serving as the local champion for the Imagination Library and raising the money to make the program possible. We need about $35,000 - $40,000 annually to pay for the Imagination Library. Right now, we are receiving donations from individuals and businesses to make the program happen. It costs $25 a year to send a book once-a-month to a child. Or you or your business can become a sponsor of several children. Here are our sponsorship levels: $100 makes you a "Bookworm." You're a "Page Turner" at $250; "Story Teller" is the $500 level and for $1,000 and up you can be a "Master Librarian." Further information on our sponsorships is available on our website at www.unitedwaymcpherson.org. You can also make a donation online.

I'd like to thank our volunteers on the Community Impact Committee who have been the driving force for making this program possible: Our Committee Chair Lara Vanderhoof, Tami Gossett, Audrey Miller, Anika Polzin, Ayda Pressnall, and our Board President Marc Robertson.

Watch the Sentinel for our announcement on Imagination Library enrollment. It's coming soon!

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