

The Chamber Business Journal

November 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 Members

Sunflower Mercantile
106 N. Main, McPherson KS
Phone: (620) 266-1020
Website: sunflowermercantileks.com
Facebook: @sunflowermercantileks

Sunflower Mercantile is a retail store that provides a wide range of merchandise such as home decor, relaxing bath products, yesteryear shaving kits for men, fun mixes to add to your favorite cuisines at home, delicious coffees, and delectable sweet treats just to name a few. MCDS is passionate about bringing quality products to your home, family, and taste buds, as well as filling their store with merchandise the individuals they serve are proud and excited to bring to their community and customers.

MCDS has always had a vision to truly be remarkable and excel in providing meaningful employment opportunities with community integration and competitive wages to individuals with disabilities. With this goal in mind, they were motivated to create **Sunflower Mercantile** for this purpose. **Sunflower Mercantile** is a downtown storefront in our wonderful community of McPherson. The store will embody all the values and principles MCDS was founded on. In this setting MCDS will provide job training and employment in a variety of capacities to the individuals they serve, including; creating, packaging, and labeling store products as well as serving customers in the store. The employment opportunities provided at **Sunflower Mercantile** will help ensure community employment is available to the individuals MCDS serves as well as creating a space where those they support can truly connect with their community while pursuing work opportunities.

MCDS has been incredibly fortunate to spend the last 45 years supporting and serving some of the most extraordinary individuals in McPherson County. Individuals full of endless potential, a dedicated work ethic, and the ability to bring joy to the lives of others in the simplest of ways. It is the vision of MCDS that through **Sunflower Mercantile** these individuals can bring their joy and passion for life to the community through their work and presence at the storefront. MCDS is excited about this new adventure and the opportunity to continue their commitment to making a profound impact on the lives of these individuals and to the communities in McPherson County.

Amy Ayers, Agent-Farm Bureau Financial Services
210 E. Euclid, McPherson KS
Phone: (620) 241-0225
Website: amyayers.fbfsagents.com
Facebook: @amyayersagent

Amy was raised in McPherson and after 20 years serving the State of Kansas with the Kansas Highway Patrol, she is back home in McPherson to serve the community with **Farm Bureau Financial Services**. Ayers is located at 210 E. Euclid where you can find both your **Farm Bureau Agents** and your McPherson County Coordinator. Call Ayers at 620-241-0225 to schedule a time to meet. Amy Ayers is here to listen so she can help you protect what matters most. **Farm Bureau** is more than just insurance.

Kansas Farm Bureau is a non-profit advocacy organization established in 1919. Almost 100 years later, **KFB** stands up for its members through leadership development, agriculture education, legal defense, environmental advocacy, farm safety, risk management, rural development and international trade. Their mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

From the McPherson Chamber Work Somewhere Awesome!

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce is hiring an executive assistant to join our team. We are looking for an energetic professional who is knowledgeable of the community and enthusiastic in supporting the Chamber's mission. Qualified applicants need to be organized, detail oriented, self-motivated and resourceful. QuickBooks experience is required and familiarity with Microsoft Office a plus. Will assist with event planning and creative marketing, maintain membership records and be responsible for accounts receivable and payable. Requires good written and verbal communication skills and a proficiency in the social

media platforms.

The executive assistant position is full time, Monday-Friday 8-5 with occasional evening and weekend hours. Hourly wages are \$13-15/hour dependent on experience. Discretion and confidentiality need to be exercised at all times. A detailed job description can be found at www.mcphersonchamber.org. Please submit a cover letter and resume to the McPherson Chamber of Commerce office at 306 N. Main, McPherson or email to chamberdirector@mcphersonks.org. Life is short, work somewhere Awesome.... such as the McPherson Chamber of Commerce!

McPherson Chamber to host Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge

As a NetWork Kansas Entrepreneurship Community, the McPherson Chamber of Commerce will host the 2019 Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge (YEC). The event will be held at the McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main on Wednesday, December 4th. The YEC is designed to give students a hands-on entrepreneurship experience. The competition will consist of students preparing a written business plan or executive summary, a "tradeshow" booth, and an elevator pitch or presentation.

"The YEC Series helps students learn valuable life skills such as creative problem solving and confidently presenting their ideas to others. The classroom learning and mentorship they receive in preparation of competing in their local YEC Series event can also help students feel more connected to their communities, and help them identify a need they could fill in their own city or county," says Amara Kniep, Product Manager, E-Community Programs.

Taylor Stucky's McPherson High School Business and Entrepreneurship students, will be participating in the 2019 McPherson YEC. We look forward to learning about the exciting business ideas of 14 creative students this year. Putting their ideas into motion, students will first create a 3-page business plan known as an executive summary. It addresses the financial requirement, cash flow and projected income as well as market research on how to reach the target market, potential growth, advertising and pricing strategy, to the management and legal structure of the business. Quite a daunting project for a high school student, but not for these students with their entrepreneurship mindset.

The local contest promotes students working as teams or individually and gives them experience in the process of making a business proposal. The students gain experience pitching their idea and answering questions in front of a panel of judges that consists of entrepreneurs, bankers and other business representatives. Going through the steps of creating a business proposal can help develop student's entrepreneurial mindset and set them on the path of one day creating their own business. In addition, students will develop creativity, problem solving, business planning, research skills, organization, presentation skills and confidence.

Students will be scored on the 4 minute presentation to the panel of judges, the business plan/executive summary and their tradeshow booth. The first place winner will be awarded \$750, second place \$500 and third will receive \$250. In addition to the prizes and recognition, the first place finisher has the opportunity to compete in the Kansas Entrepreneurship Challenge at Kansas State University in Manhattan. This event will include the top young entrepreneurs from schools across the state.

The inaugural McPherson YEC was held in 2018 and made a lasting impression on Debbie Hawkinson, executive director of the McPherson Chamber. "I had the opportunity to visit with the MHS students at the 2018 YEC Competition tradeshow and was so impressed with their completely unique and essential business ideas, as well as the professional and confident manner that they presented themselves. From the very well thought out business plans and marketing materials, to their effective communication skills, Taylor Stucky's MHS Business and Entrepreneurship students, blew me away!" commented Hawkinson.

Join us to learn more about our enthusiastic and creative local youth entrepreneurs at this year's McPherson YEC on Wednesday, December 4, 2019. Parents, family, educators and the public is invited to attend the tradeshow portion of the event from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Attendees will have the opportunity to cast their vote for People's Choice. The event will conclude with an award lunch scheduled for 11:15 a.m. The cost of the lunch is \$15.00 per person and reservations are required by calling the Chamber at 241-3303 by Monday, December 2nd.

For more information, contact Debbie Hawkinson, McPherson Chamber of Commerce at 620-241-3303 or chamberdirector@mcphersonks.org. For more information about NetWork Kansas or the E-Community Partnership, visit www.networkkansas.com. The YEC Series is a NetWork Kansas program, presented in partnership with the Kansas State University Center for Entrepreneurship and the Kansas Masons to provide prize money to YEC event winners and access to the state-wide competition, the Kansas Entrepreneurship Challenge.

DQ GRILL & CHILL WINNERS

Congratulations 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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LOYD, LLC**

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chamber events

November	11	7:00 am Ag Committee meeting @ The Well, 101 N. Main
20	12	4:00 p.m. Women’s Event Committee @ Chamber office, 306 N. Main
21		9:30 a.m. Chamber Connections @ Krehbiels Specialty Meats, 1636 Mohawk Rd.
	14	3:00 p.m. - 05:00 p.m. Chamber Board Retreat @ Chamber Office, 306 N. Main
28		5:00-8:00 p.m. Girls Night Out -Shop McPherson
	17	Happy Thanksgiving. Chamber office closed
29		Chamber office closed.
30	19	Small Business Saturday-Shop McPherson! 3:00 pm. Free Movie “The Secret Life of Pets 2” @ McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main
December	21	
4		9:30-11:00 a.m. Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge tradeshow @ McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main
5		9:30 Chamber Connections @ The Stone Chimney, 1500 E. First St.
8		3:00 p.m. Free Movie “Smallfoot” @ McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main.



ROB MACKEY
Executive Director

CRIME DOESN'T PAY, BUT CRIME STOPPERS DOES!

We are very blessed in McPherson County to have dedicated professional law enforcement. But even the best can use a little help when it comes to crime fighting. That’s where McPherson County Crime Stoppers comes in.

Crime Stoppers has a local board that works with the McPherson Police Department and McPherson County Sheriff’s Office. Jack Rader is the volunteer board chair, who said, “Our duty is to evaluate tips when they come in and to award cash rewards to people who help us solve crimes.” Law enforcement coordinators for Crime Stoppers are Administrative McPherson Police Lieutenant Stacy Snyder and Sheriff’s Detective Ryan Sherwood. Detective Sherwood has assumed the role from Sheriff’s Captain Doug Anderson, who had served as a coordinator for 30 years. Lieutenant Snyder has served for several years as the Police Department Coordinator.

Captain Anderson said Crime Stoppers of McPherson County dates back to September of 1986. More than

From the United Way of McPherson County

1,720 tips have been received throughout the program’s history. They have dealt with burglaries, thefts, arsons, homicides, rapes, drug crimes and fugitives. Crime Stoppers has cleared over 350 cases. Crime Stoppers has also resulted in the recovery of more than \$375,000 worth of stolen property, drugs seized, and restitution ordered.

Anderson remembers Crime Stoppers played a role in solving a series of residential farm burglaries in 1988. A tip caught the suspects involved who had committed thefts from some 30 rural homes in Harvey, Marion, McPherson, Reno, Rice, and Saline Counties. Two arrests were made and thousands of dollars’ worth of stolen property was recovered.

Rewards are paid in cash, and Anderson recalls an old case where a tipster wanted his money left in a brown paper bag near a light pole at the old TG&Y store. Nowadays, rewards are paid out at the drive-up window of a local bank. “It’s been a very helpful program,” said Anderson.

While phone calls used to be the most common form of tips, Crime Stoppers now stays busy with tips through its Facebook page, said Detective Sherwood. He said people “can make a web tip, or text in a tip as well.” The advent of social media allows au-

thorities to share photos of suspects and even surveillance video that has caught criminals in the act. Still, the public is sometimes needed to help identify the perpetrators. That’s where the tips come in.

What value is Crime Stoppers to law enforcement? Lieutenant Snyder said, “How we value the tips that come in through the Crime Stoppers Facebook page, is we pair them up with cases we may be working and it assists us as a tool in trying to locate a suspect or suspects in those cases.” “The guaranteeing of anonymity is very important to the tipsters,” said Captain Anderson. “They can be confident that their name will not be given out.” You can call your tips to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-241-8118 or 620-241-1122, or contact Crime Stoppers through their Facebook page.

In addition to Jack Rader, we’d like to acknowledge the rest of the volunteer McPherson County Crime Stoppers Board: John Houghton, Royce Janssen, Bryce McFarland, Megan Spencer, and Barrett Woelhof. McPherson County Crime Stoppers is a United Way partner agency. When you give to the United Way campaign, you’re helping citizens and law enforcement stop crime where you live and work.

McPherson...Where Santa Shops

The McPherson Chamber and McPherson Main Street partner to bring you a delightful holiday experience in McPherson. Whether you have an entire afternoon to stroll around town in search of the perfectly unique gift for someone special, or you have created an organized list of gifts to purchase at several local McPherson gems, you are in for a treat. While you are shopping, take time to enjoy the Holiday Movies, Cookies with Santa, get registered for the Candy Cane Cash drawing and appreciate the welcoming hometown ambiance of McPherson.

- Holiday Movies**
- Free holiday movies are a part of the holiday promotion sponsored by the McPherson Chamber and McPherson Main Street and their members. All movies are shown at the McPherson Opera House, 219 S. Main.
- **Saturday, November 30** @ 3 p.m. The Secret Life of Pets 2
 - **Sunday, December 8** @ 3 p.m. Smallfoot
 - **Sunday, December 21** @ 3 p.m. The Grinch (2018)

Movie Sponsors: McPherson MRC, Ristoranti Italiano, Stockham Family Funeral Home, Dr. Ken Cotton DDS, Peoples Bank & Trust, Home State Bank, H&R Block, Elliott Agency, MTC, Midway Motors, Rinse & Roll Car Wash, The Stone Chimney, McPherson Convention & Visitors Bureau, Ellene McKean & Associates, Artshirt-Gear for Sport, Save ‘N Share, Stitches Quilt Shop, Creative Hairlines Spa Salon, Brown’s Shoe Fit Co., Ayers Insurance.

Be on the lookout for Santa, who was caught on TV shopping in McPherson!

The McPherson Chamber and McPherson Main Street put together a marketing package to help local businesses and organizations spotlight their products and services through TV ads, radio promotions and printed advertising. Be watching for Santa on TV, as he was spotted in McPherson and captured on film while shopping at the following locations:

The Bookshelf/Hidden Closet, Home State Bank, Stitches Quilt Shop, A5 Western/Ramblin J Booteek, Arshirt-Gear for Sport, Graber’s Ace Hardware, The Cook’s Nook, The Stone Chimney, Brooklyn & Co, Venable Jewelers, Culvers Wine & Spirits, Four Seasons Realtors-Tiffany Floyd and Jeannie Heinen, Nex-Tech Wireless, Clayworks, The Well, The Village Geek, Mattress Haven Furniture & Appliance, McPherson Convention and Visitors Bureau, Creative Hairlines, Tesori Boutique, & Brown’s Shoe Fit.

Although you may not see these local businesses in the TV ads, they have participated in the holiday promotion and will appear in many other marketing avenues. Check out the great holiday and everyday items at Nooks & Crannies Floral, The ReUse It Center, Integrity Salon & Spa, Sunflower Mercantile.

Girls Night Out- Thursday, November 21st

Not only are there added shopping opportunities with extended hours (5-8 p.m.) on **Girls Night Out, Thursday, November 21st**, shoppers will earn TRIPLE Candy Cane Cash points when making purchases. That means more chances to win the \$1,000 or \$500 Candy Cane Cash drawing. It’s a win-win. Girls Night Out is a time to enjoy a night on the town with friends, shop for others or make your own wish list, enjoy refreshments, sales, drawings and demos at participating stores. Check out the McPherson Chamber of Commerce or McPherson Main Street Facebook pages for more details from participating stores.

Cookies with Santa

Santa will be very busy in McPherson visiting with youngsters. Mark your calendar and plan to join Santa at any of these 8 locations. Cookies with Santa is hosted by local businesses and offers an opportunity for light-hearted holiday fun.

Thurs., Dec. 5th from 5 - 6:30 p.m. @ Stupka Chiropractic, 114 W Euclid
Thurs., Dec. 12th from 5 - 6:30 p.m. @ Nex-Tech Wireless, 200 S. Champlin
Sat., Dec. 14th from 9:30 - 11 a.m. @ McPherson Public Library, 214 W Marlin
Sat., Dec. 14th from 2 - 3:30 p.m. @ Sunflower Mercantile, 106 N Main
Tues., Dec. 17th from 5 - 6:30 p.m. @ KNGL/KBBE Radio, 411 E Euclid
Thurs., Dec. 19th from 5 - 6:30 p.m. @ McPherson Makerspace, 218 N Ash
Sat., Dec. 21st from 9:30 - 11 a.m. @ Sunflower Bank, 120 W Kansas
Sat., Dec. 21st from 2-3:30 p.m. @ The Clayworks, 107 N Main

While designed for McPherson’s young patrons, children of all ages are welcome! Bring your cameras and ask about a free print coupon, compliments of the Walgreens store in McPherson.

Mini Main Street- Saturday, December 7th

Bring the little ones for their very own holiday shopping experience! Mini Main Street is Saturday, December 7th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the American Legion, 401 N. Main. Santa’s elves will be helping the little ones shop. All gifts are priced \$10 and under, and there will be free cookies, crafts and gift wrapping. Bring your camera and visit Santa. Santa is sponsored by Compass Realty.

Candy Cane Cash!

Candy Cane Cash! Shop local to check off your Christmas lists and get registered to win! Shop at participating stores November 1st through December 31st, 2019 and earn points to enter the Candy Cane Cash drawing. You could win \$1,000 OR \$500 in Candy Cane Cash to be spent in participating stores, just for shopping locally! Winners will be announced in January.

Participating stores include: The Bookshelf/Hidden Closet, CK Pharmacy, A5 Western/Ramblin’ J Booteek, Simply Good Overstocks, Rusty Tin Boutique, Artshirt Gear for Sport, Stupka Chiropractic & Wellness Center, Graber’s Ace Hardware, The Cook’s Nook, Twice Told Tales, The Stone Chimney, Domino’s Pizza, Brooklyn & Co., Venable Jewelers, Nex-Tech Wireless, Nooks & Crannies Floral, McPherson Public Library, Stitches Quilt Shop, Hopp’s Sound, Integrity Salon & Spa, The Well, Clayworks at Disability Supports, The Village Geek, Mattress Haven Furniture & Appliance, Sunflower Mercantile, Creative Hairlines, Elysium Studios, Tesori Boutique, and Brown’s Shoe Fit Co.

“McPherson...Where Santa Shops” holiday promotion is full of ways to enjoy the season in McPherson and support our local businesses. Shop McPherson...Santa does!

From Our Family...To Yours

Your Confidence Is Our Reputation

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