

# The Chamber Business Journal

October 2020

*Doing what most people think just happens!*

306 N. Main, McPherson, Kansas 67460 • Phone: 620-241-3303 • [www.mcphersonchamber.org](http://www.mcphersonchamber.org) • Visit us on Facebook

## Congratulations & Welcome New Member

**Home Sweet Home Realty, LLC**  
**115 E. Marlin, Suite 102, McPherson**  
**Contact: Teresa Pimentel**  
**Phone: 620-755-6916**  
**Facebook: Teresa Pimentel at Home Sweet Home Realty**

Teresa Pimentel is the owner- broker of **Home Sweet Home Realty LLC**, located at 115 E. Marlin, Suite 102 in McPherson, Kansas. She has been an agent here in McPherson for the last 10 years. **Home Sweet Home Realty** can assist first-time home buyers, folks wanting to down-size, those looking for an investment property, and growing families who are needing a much larger home. Whether you are wanting to sell your house, or you are looking for your dream home, **Home Sweet Home Realty** is here to help you find the perfect home with charm and character!

Teresa is very excited to be opening her own real estate office and looks forward to continuing to work with the families and businesses in McPherson and the surrounding areas. Give **Home Sweet Home Realty** a call at 620-755-6916.

Be watching the McPherson Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page for the Home Sweet Home Realty's Chamber Ribbon Cutting Date.

## McPherson County Hiring Day

Attention Educators, Career Service Coordinators and Job seekers As with everything this year, it is a time for creativity and perseverance. The McPherson Chamber of Commerce would typically be sending out a schedule of upcoming Manufacturing Tours to recognize and celebrate Manufacturing "Month" in McPherson. Instead we are sharing information on the modified yet exciting alternative, created by the marketing team at Go>McPherson. Save the date for the first-ever McPherson County Hiring Day, Friday, Oct. 23rd from 10-2! This a free, virtual event designed for jobseekers and students. It is an opportunity to network and interview for hundreds of jobs, learn about potential career paths, and get to know some of the most exciting and innovative companies in the area. Job-seeking professionals can even upload their resume to make an easy connection with hiring companies.

A few of the featured employers include: Viega LLC, Wald Family Foods, Johns Manville, Ferguson Production, Disability Supports of the Great Plains, Inc., The Grasshopper Company, CertainTeed, McPherson College, McPherson Center for Health, McPherson USD #418, PrairieLand Partners, Tortilla King, Multi Community Diversified Services, The Cedars and many more!

The McPherson Chamber will be participating in McPherson County Hiring Day to visit with attendees about our amazing community, about the McPherson County Entrepreneurship Community Loan Program for those considering starting their own business, and to share information from our Chamber members about their current job opportunities. To learn more, visit the Go>McPherson website at [www.gomcpherson.com](http://www.gomcpherson.com).

In addition to the McPherson County Hiring Day on October 23rd, Bradbury Co. is celebrating Manufacturing Month by going virtual with their tours throughout the month of October.

The following is from Bradbury: "I truly hope that your school year is off to a great start! Although, I am certain it looks different than any other year, I am confident that you are working to make it the best for your students. MFG Day will also look different this year at Bradbury. I am excited to announce that we are going virtual and giving tours throughout the month of October."

"Our goal is to ensure students receive a realistic look inside the walls of a world class manufacturing facility while also getting inspired to pursue a career in STEM. Although we will be hosting this event virtually, we will still be able to show modern manufacturing for what it is—a sleek, technology-driven industry that offers secure, good-paying jobs that are focused on the future." A guided tour by one of their employees will be given to ensure a personal touch is felt and allow for questions and answers. To register, go to <https://info.bradburygroup.com/manufacturing-day-virtual>.

## Chamber Annual Meeting Goes Virtual

We are so excited about the opportunity to present our Chamber Annual Meeting virtually. This year has brought many challenges, but it has also been full of opportunities to be creative and show just how resilient we are. After the Chamber board discussed the 45-person limit, while sitting too far apart for a good conversation, and savoring a delicious meal through a face covering, we decided to present this year's annual meeting in a unique way.

We will most definitely miss having a casual conversation and sharing lunch with all of you, but we are hopeful that we can reach an even larger audience with the virtual format. This is the year to embrace technology, and present the traditional topics, in an innovate way.

While we don't have a "show date" set, we are working on all of the key components. The Annual Meeting will include the President's Award Honoree and will recognize the 2020-2021 Chamber board members and the retiring board members. It will also showcase the 2020 Leadership McPherson class and their class project to benefit the youth of our community. Lastly, but oh so important, will be the highlights of what the McPherson Chamber has been doing for our members and community this year, and what our goals and initiatives are going forward.

Sign up for the McPherson Chamber e-newsletter, like us on Facebook, and stay tuned for details on the Annual Meeting.

## Fill Your Cup

As a parent, spouse, co-worker, committee member, neighbor, and friend, we are whole heartedly committed to helping others. We unselfishly give countless hours to volunteering, consistently put in overtime at work, drop everything to be there to help others who are struggling, and spend many sleepless nights taking care of little ones, or aging parents. But what about you? Do you dedicate even 15 minutes to taking care of you? I'm not saying that any of your efforts for others aren't needed or appreciated, believe me they are, but for you to give it 100% you also need time to "fill your cup."

Take that 15 minute stroll on the country road, read that book, call a friend, lift weights to hard rock music, laugh at a funny TikTok video, shoot some hoops, get up early to watch the sunrise, take time to do what makes you happy. When you are recharged, you are more likely to have a positive perspective and will be more effective in your efforts to help others.

Within the last few weeks I have attended two funerals, and while visiting with the family and friends about what they have been up to, the consistently weary answer was work, work, work. Obviously they were somber because they lost a loved one, but they were also drained because of their busy schedule. The schedule they continue to power through every day until it turns into months where they haven't taken time to enjoy life. After imparting my best advise about taking time to "fill their cup," it started to resonate with me. What would my answer be if someone asked what I had been up to? Funerals have a way of putting things into perspective and reminding you about living life to the fullest.

Take time for you, take time to enjoy the special moments with others, and keep filling your cup so that you can be 100% and give wholeheartedly. And in case no one has told you today, you are appreciated!



**Debbie Hawkinson,**  
**Executive Director,**  
**McPherson Chamber**  
**of Commerce**

## Holiday Promotion

What a year this has been! With so many differing opinions regarding COVID-19 safety restrictions and recommendations, it sometimes seems that things change on a daily basis. After reaching out to our business members and the general public, and consistently staying abreast of current mandates and recommendations, we have decided to move forward with our holiday promotion. We realize that this will involve implementing safety measures and adjusting how some activities are structured and we are willing to put in the extra work to make them happen. Our plan is to promote the shopping season in the same manner as we have in the past with TV ads, social media, radio, and print. We will approach each activity with added safety measures and adaptations based on the current COVID-19 status at that time. We feel strongly that we all need some sense of normalcy and that moving forward in a safe manner is imperative to the morale of the community and to the success of our local economy. Thank you so much for your support! Ann Engel (McPherson Main Street) & Debbie Hawkinson (McPherson Chamber of Commerce) Holiday Promotion dates as of 10/19/2020

- **Open House Weekend:** Nov 6-8th Business set their own hours.
- **Cookies with Santa:** Thursdays Dec 3rd, 10th & 11th at 5:00-6:30 pm and Saturdays Dec 12th & 19th at 9:30-11 am and 2-3:30 pm.
- **Candy Cane Cash:** Nov 1– Dec 31st
- **Free Movies:** Dates and times TBD
- **Snowball Drop:** Nov 5th at 5:30 pm
- **Girls Night Out:** Nov 19th from 4-9 pm

For complete information, visit [www.mcphersonchamber.org](http://www.mcphersonchamber.org) The McPherson Chamber and McPherson Main Street partner to bring this marketing opportunity to our members, and enjoyable holiday activities to our community. For complete information, visit [www.mcphersonchamber.org](http://www.mcphersonchamber.org) or be watching the McPherson Main Street and the McPherson Chamber of Commerce Facebook pages.

**JOHN DEERE**

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# 2020 - 2021 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

- President- Kendra Oakes, Peoples Bank & Trust \* President-Elect- Lauren Hughes, Wise & Reber L.C.
- \* Treasurer- Justin Kaufman, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd \* Past President- Alex Graber, Graber's Ace Hardware
- \* Board of Directors: Amy Beckman, McPherson College \* Shannon Brake, McPherson Public Library
- \* Jackie Christiansen, CHS Refinery \* Craig Druecker, Midway Motors Supercenter \* Ryan Hicks, Farmers Alliance
- \* Jeff Reitz, JAR Performance Automotive \* Dr. Patrick Romm, Integrated Health and Wellness \* Eric Wicker, Viega

## chamber events

*\*To view the Community Calendar for McPherson County, visit [www.mcphersonchamber.org](http://www.mcphersonchamber.org)*

### October

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>22</b> 11:30 Chamber Board Meeting @ Chamber office                            | 5:30 Snowball Drop @ Community Building  |
| 5:30-7:30 Chamber After Hours @ The Cedars, for their Dock Dedication             | <b>6-8</b> Holiday Open House Weekend  |
| <b>23</b> 10-2:00 McPherson County Hiring Day                                     | <b>11</b> Veterans Day   |
| <b>28</b> 9:00 am Leadership McPherson Class @ First United Methodist Church      | <b>12</b> 9:30 am Chamber Connections Hosted by Advanced Physical Therapy @ 400 W. 4th Street  |
| <b>29</b> 9:30 am Chamber Connections @ 200 S. Main hosted by Horizon Real Estate | 12:00 Leadership McPherson Alumni Virtual Presentation on "Self-Care in a Time of Disruptive Leadership" by Amanda Michaelis, Shift Your Perspective |

### November

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>4</b> 12:00 Leadership Advisory Committee meeting @ Chamber office                   | <b>18</b> 11:30 am Leadership Class Celebration        |
| <b>5</b> 9:30 Chamber Connections hosted by Krehbiels Specialty Meats @ 1636 Mohawk Rd. | <b>19</b> 11:30 Chamber Board meeting @ Chamber office |
|   | 4-9 pm Girls Night Out-Holiday Promotion               |
|   | <b>28</b> Small Business Saturday                      |

## Look Who Renewed!

The McPherson Chamber is much more than an organization of businesses, industries, non-profits, and individuals, it is the heart of the community. The Chamber is the foundation on which to build a strong workforce, develop future leaders, expand the economic base, and impact our community.

**We appreciate these renewals from 9/22/2020 to 10/16/2020.**

Ask Your Travel Agent, McPherson Recreation Commission, MTC, Lakeside Plaza, McPherson County Farm Bureau Association, McPherson Business Solutions, McPherson Housing Coalition, The Cedars, PrairieLand Partners, The Cook's Nook, Pavement Pro's, McPherson Convention and Visitors Bureau, Brian Lundberg, Brooklyn & Co. Bridal, Armin Nelson, Vogts Construction, GraceMed Health Clinic, McPherson Opera House Company, Hometown Motors, Central Plastics Inc., St. Joseph Catholic School, Fresh Ideas, Citizens Financial Services-Mike Cullinane-Advisor, McPherson Center for Health, Ferguson Production Inc., McPherson Community Theatre, CT FIT 24, Sounds Great, PrimeLending, Conco Construction, McPherson Eye Care: Drs. Goering & Hageman, Nile Valley Garden Products, Central Christian College of Kansas, Bethany Village, Johns Manville Corporation, Consolidated Printing, McPherson All Schools Day, McPherson American Legion-Post #24, Dustin Haigh Agency- Farm Bureau Financial Services, and Hutchinson Community College.

## Par-Tee On Extras

It was a fantastic Friday to "Par-Tee On." A beautiful, non-stressful afternoon of Par-Tee games with business friends and more friends. The Chamber appreciates the many sponsors who gave donations, Par-Tee favors and participated with fun games.

**Wood Sponsors:** Edward Jones- Aaron Mayfield, Central States Marketing and Manufacturing, Advanced Physical Therapy, Express Employment, PrimeLending, Plastics Extrusion Machinery, Smokey Valley Distillery, Midway Motors, Bluestem PACE, Emprise Bank, First Bank Kansas, Prairie Landworks, Catalyst Safety, Kansas Secured Title, Swindoll Janzen Hawk & Loyd and Farmers Alliance Mutual Insurance

**Iron Sponsors:** Home State Bank, Peoples Bank & Trust, Legacy Lawns, MTC, INA Alert,

**Additional Sponsors:** Reach Solutions, Papa Murphy's Turkey Creek Golf Course, The Cedars, Hall's Culligan Water, Nelson Appraisal, Sharp Advertising, Rise Wealth Management, Edward Jones-Brad Seibel. We also appreciate the golf committee, the volunteers, and the teams who came to enjoy the day. It was a wonderful way to destress and we thank you all.

**Congratulations to these tournament winners:**  
**First Flight:** 1st place-Prairie Landworks #1 (Tyler Greer, Chris Schneider & Caleb Daniels) 2nd place-Nelson Appraisal, 3rd place-Central States Marketing #2  
**Second Flight:** 1st place-Bluestem PACE, 2nd place-Ferguson #2, 3rd place-Kansas Secured Title  
**Third Flight:** 1st place-Swindoll Janzen Hawk & Loyd, 2nd place-Reach Solutions, 3rd place-PEM #1

We unfortunately did not have a hole-in-one contest winner for the Jeep Gladiator from Midway Motors, or the \$100 ChamberCheck from Central States Marketing & Manufacturing, but Shane Nelson did win a \$300 gift card from PEM. The longest drive (chicken prize) went to Michael Wallace, and the prize bag of goodies from Kansas Secured Title was won by Chris Schneider. Paul won the golf bag from Prairie Landworks and Catalyst Safety, and the putter from Edward Jones- Aaron Mayfield putting contest went to Alex Drambour. The QR game, a new game this year to highlight our Iron Sponsors, was won by the PEM #1 team. They won 4 rounds of golf and carts from Turkey Creek Golf Course. The 50/50 raffle went to Dustin Orth. Lots of big winners, but everyone wins when they are golfing on a Friday afternoon at the Chamber Classic!

View the McPherson Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page for photos from the Chamber Classic Golf Tournament.

## SPARK Grants Available

The McPherson County Community Foundation is working with McPherson County to administer SPARK (Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas) funds in the recovery of the effects from the COVID-19 pandemic. Small businesses and nonprofit organizations in McPherson County are eligible to receive funding through this program.

Grants of up to \$25,000 to eligible nonprofit organizations. The amount of a grant is to reimburse for costs and loss of income due to reduced donations or cancelled fund-raising events. The total funds available under this grant program are \$200,000.

Grants of up to \$10,000 to eligible small for-profit businesses. The amount of a grant is to reimburse for costs and loss of income due to the business interruption impact of COVID-19. The total funds available under this grant program are \$300,000.00.

A third component of the SPARK grants administered by the Foundation are focused on assistance for individuals and families to pay rent/mortgage or utilities as a result of lost wages from layoffs, reduced hours or being furloughed after March 13, 2020.

Grant funds are limited, so apply today at [www.mcphersonfoundation.org](http://www.mcphersonfoundation.org)

## DQ GRILL & CHILL WINNERS

**Congratulations to Boesker Construction, P.O. Box 385, Canton, KS winner of the DQ cake. Thank you, Roger and Karen Horn, Owners of DQ Grill and Chill, 1435 N. Main, McPherson for providing the monthly DQ ice cream treat.**



**ROB MACKEY**  
Executive Director

### COVID-19 COMPOUNDS THE CRISIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence was already a sobering societal issue, and then COVID-19 came along.

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and it's an opportunity for all of us to be informed. Kim Ratzlaff, Executive Director of Safehope, says more than 69,000 Kansans sought refuge from domestic violence situations in 2019.

Safehope, which services Harvey, Marion, and McPherson Counties, served 926 clients in the year ending June 30th. "So it's not like we're just talking about a few people that deal with violence in their homes with their spouse or their partners," said Ratzlaff. "It is a big concern that we're dealing with every day."

Safehope operates a residential shelter in Newton and provides a 24-hour hotline for people in crisis. "It's just important," said Ratzlaff, "that we're there to listen and care and to help our clients find their own solutions."

Safehope is a partner agency of United Way of McPherson County. Our funding helps make a local office possible and fund a storage unit for community donations. Because victims often flee their situations with few personal possessions, Safehope can begin to provide the donated household items they need to set up a

## From the United Way of McPherson County

new apartment or household.

Safehope's advocates report that the pandemic has been a game-changer for their work. "It's been much more complicated for our victims and survivors," said Ratzlaff. "They maybe can't get out of the home as easily, because now the perpetrator, if you will, is still in the house working from home. So, maybe the mother can't get out of the home with the children in a safe manner. And even when they do, having to deal with the new school schedules and the daycare arrangement, COVID has impacted the lives of all of us. It has compounded the impact on the lives of victims who are trying to put their lives back together."

Support and counseling are important parts of their services, and they have two part-time licensed therapists that are part of their counseling that can be included. Men can also be domestic violence victims, and Safehope is available to them, as well.

If you or someone you know is in crisis from domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking, call the hotline at 316-283-0350. It is answered 24-hours a day. More information on Safehope is available on their website at [www.safehope.net](http://www.safehope.net). Our thanks to Kim, her staff and the agency's volunteers that provide vital services to people who desperately need them.

The United Way of McPherson County 2020 campaign is now underway. Safehope is one of 17 local programs that benefits from your donation. You can make a gift today on our website at [www.unitedwaymcpherson.org](http://www.unitedwaymcpherson.org), click on "donate" and select "United Way Annual Campaign" from the drop-down menu.

Thank you for your support.

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**Troy Glidden - Director**

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